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THURSDAY MAY 23 1996

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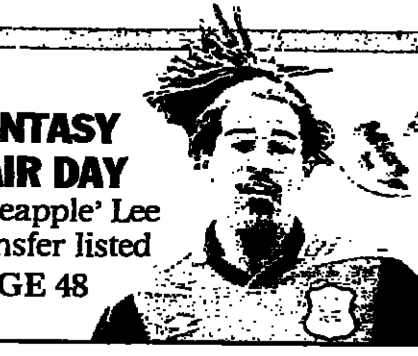

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'Jaymee was special. She tried so hard and came so close'

David Bowen: no regrets about legal campaign

By Carol Midgley

THE father of Jaymee Bowen, the 11-year-old girl finally beaten by leukaemia, spoke of her last days yesterday and pledged to continue his legal fight over her treatment saying: "She will win in the end."

David Bowen said his daughter, who came to prominence as "Child B" when he took Cambridge health authority to court last year, had shown awesome courage and he had no regrets about pressing for the extra chemotherapy that prolonged her life.

On Tuesday night, however, Mr Bowen held Jaymee's hand as she died in her sleep at the private Portland Hospital, London. He told *The Times:* "As I looked at her I just thought that Jaymee didn't deserve this. She deserved to beat it. She tried so hard and she came so close. She was an incredibly special person."

Jaymee had been admitted to hospital last Thursday — the evening she had been due to attend a launch party of a book about her life — for what was thought to be a relatively minor problem. Healthy blood cells donated by her sister had triggered a "graft versus host" disease to keep the leukaemia under control, but it had begun to attack her lungs, making it difficult for her to breathe. "If we had carried on, her lungs would have been so damaged she would have needed a transplant and I was not going to put her through that," Mr Bowen said.

Four days later her lungs had started to recover, but by then the leukaemia had swamped her body. "It was too much for her," her father added.

In the hours before her death Jaymee, too weak to speak and sedated by morphine, had indicated that she wanted the television switched off and Diana Ross's *Baby Love* played instead. By 9pm she had lapsed into a deeper sleep and just before 10pm, with her sister Charlotte, 10, holding one hand and her father the other, she died.

Mr Bowen, 32, a former property consultant from Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, said: "We were all with her. She was lying there and just stopped breathing. I looked at the doctor and he looked at me and that was it. It was very peaceful. She didn't know what was happening and she looked lovely, just like she was asleep. She had this little smile on her lips."

Jaymee's mother, Alyson, who had been at the hospital, was reported to be in utter shock and grief; Peter Gravett, the consultant haematologist who took on the challenge of trying to cure her, was also at the bedside and said to be distraught.

In March last year Mr Bowen refused to accept Cambridge Health Authority's decision that Jaymee's chances of survival were so slim that they did not warrant spending £75,000 on chemotherapy and a possible bone marrow transplant. He challenged the decision in the High Court but lost.

Last night he said he had no regrets, saying: "I owed it to her, however small the chance it might have been."

Extra year, page 9
Body and Mind, page 18

Jaymee: asked for music to be played

Taylor attacks 'production line justice'

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

THE Lord Chief Justice today delivers a savage parting shot to the Home Secretary, accusing him of bringing in production line justice on the basis of tainted statistics.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, who is retiring from ill health, challenges Michael Howard over claims that judges are too lenient and warns him that minimum jail terms would vastly increase the prison population.

Lord Taylor makes his first public comment on the sentencing White Paper published in March in an article in *The Times*, and it is expected to be followed by an unprecedented onslaught in a special debate in the House of Lords today. Lord Donaldson of Lymington, a former Master of the Rolls, Lord Windlesham, Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, Lord Lowry, Lord Nolan, and Lord Lester of Herne Hill are all expected to join Lord Taylor in attacking the proposals.

In his article, Lord Taylor tells Mr Howard that there is "no merit in adopting a macho attitude regardless of its efficacy", and says that certainty in sentencing can be achieved only by sacrificing justice.

Jailing repeat burglars for a minimum of three years would either put them on a par with violent offenders or force judges to "ratchet up" other terms, hugely increasing the prison population.

The consequences of "production line justice" could be seen in the humiliating fiasco of a previous criminal justice act which "collapsed under the weight of its own contradictions. . .after less than a year in operation", he writes. "The Government's latest proposals suggest they have learned none of the lessons of this policy."

Mr Howard has said that he is responding to public concern about crime and that he is determined to hit serious, dangerous and persistent offenders hard. But Lord Taylor takes him to task over statistics quoted in the White Paper as evidence of the soft sentencing by judges.

> ❛ There is no merit in adopting a macho attitude regardless of its efficacy ❜
>
> *—Lord Taylor of Gosforth*

The normal sentence for someone who burgles an occupied house is four years, he says, and the offender can expect to serve two or three. "If these sentence lengths are unduly lenient for a crime in which there is no violence, what longer terms must be imposed for offences against the person?" he writes.

Lord Taylor also cites White Paper figures which say that average sentences for burglars increase only from 16 months for a first offence to 19 months for the third. But, he says, the figures come from an unpublished sample of caes over five weeks in 1993 and 1994, and some of them relate to the time when judges were forbidden to take account of previous convictions.

"For the Government to criticise the judiciary for lenient sentencing when they were prevented from taking previous convictions into account by statute is wholly unjustifiable," Lord Taylor says. With those cases removed, the figures showed a bigger increase in severity than Mr Howard indicated.

"The White Paper therefore misrepresents the true position", he says. "Quite apart from the manifest injustice of sentencing without regard to the circumstances of the case, the statistics relied upon are therefore insufficient and tainted."

Last night the Home Office said that without seeing Lord Taylor's statistics, they could not comment. But a spokesman added: "When Michael Howard has cited statistics, he has not gone into all the detail — he has taken a selection of figures because people don't want to be bombarded. But obviously they are accurate."

Howard's justice, page 20

Owen Oyston, the millionaire, who was jailed for rape yesterday. His victim, then 16, was "young, dependent and vulnerable" said the judge

Oyston jailed for rape

By Kate Alderson and Russell Jenkins

THE flamboyant millionaire businessman Owen Oyston was jailed for six years yesterday for the "horrendous" rape of a 16-year-old former model.

Oyston, 62, the chairman of Blackpool Football Club, who lives in a 16th century manor near Lancaster, was also given a concurrent three year sentence after the jury convicted him of indecently assaulting the same girl in the back of a sports car.

He reddened and fought back tears in the dock at a packed Liverpool Crown Court as he heard Mr Justice McCullough tell him that he had committed "horrendous offences" for which he had shown not a hint of remorse.

The judge told Oyston, whose personal wealth is estimated at £40 million, that he had hoped to use his power and influence to save himself and had forced the girl, now aged 20 — and identified in court as Miss B — through the ordeal of a trial. "You were 58 and Miss B was 16. You were

Continued on page 3, col 1

Old bones crack riddle of Piltdown Man

By Michael Hornsby and Tim Jones

TELL-TALE initials on an old canvas travelling trunk found under the roof of the Natural History Museum could finally have solved the riddle of Piltdown Man, the most notorious scientific fraud of the century.

A collection of carved and stained old bones inside the trunk is said to prove beyond doubt the identity of the perpetrator of the hoax.

Brian Gardiner, Professor of Palaeontology at King's College, London, today names him as Martin Alistair Campbell Hinton, a former curator of zoology at the Natural History Museum in London, who died in 1961.

His evidence, which he will set out tomorrow in his presidential address to the Linnean Society, is based on years studying and analysing the contents of the trunk, which bears Hinton's initials.

Professor Gardiner said yesterday: "I first learnt of the trunk's existence in 1988. I was already almost sure that Hinton was the perpetrator. Lengthy examination of the contents has now confirmed

Continued on page 2, col 5

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Hogg downgraded as 'beef war cabinet' is formed

By Philip Webster, political editor

JOHN MAJOR and Malcolm Rifkind yesterday took charge of Britain's response to the beef crisis, setting up a "war cabinet" to convince the rest of Europe and Conservative Euro-sceptics of the seriousness of their threat to bring the European Union to a standstill.

In a move that suggested that the role of Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, is being downgraded, Mr Major established a new Cabinet group headed by Roger Freeman, the Public Service Minister, to oversee the policy of slaughtering and disposing of millions of cattle more than 30 months old.

The development comes after widespread criticism from farmers and meat traders over lack of co-ordination and information about the slaughter policy, and a stream of Tory backbench complaints about Mr Hogg's handling of the affair. Conservative sources say that Mr Major is looking more than ever to Mr Rifkind to front for the Government. Both he and Mr Hogg will undertake missions to EU states to explain the Government's case but the Foreign Secretary will be very much in the lead.

Also in the new group will be Michael Forsyth and William Hague, the Scottish and Welsh Secretaries, as well as ministers from the agriculture, health and environment departments.

But the so-called beef war cabinet will be a core team of Mr Major, Mr Rifkind and Mr Hogg, serviced by a group of senior civil servants headed by Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary. They will meet today and as often as necessary in the coming weeks as Britain conducts an intense diplomatic effort designed to produce a timetable for the

Continued on page 2, col 4

"Initially I wasn't really bothered by the worldwide ban. . .

British campaign, pages 12, 13
William Rees-Mogg, page 20
Leading article, letters, page 21

Clinton accused over sex case

Republicans accused President Clinton of trying to delay a sexual harassment lawsuit brought by Paula Jones by suggesting that as Commander-in-Chief of the US Armed Forces he had the same rights as a soldier on active duty.

Mr Clinton dodged wearing a military uniform during the Vietnam War, but his lawyer, Robert Bennett, said the criticism was a partisan attempt to distort his petition ....Page 16

Labour candidate deselected

The Labour Party's ruling body deselected John Lloyd, the parliamentary candidate for Exeter, over his past links with terrorism in South Africa.

Mr Lloyd said that he was "very disappointed and very angry" and would take legal advice on the decision. The National Executive Committee rejected a last-minute plea by his supporters, who had travelled to London ...Page 10

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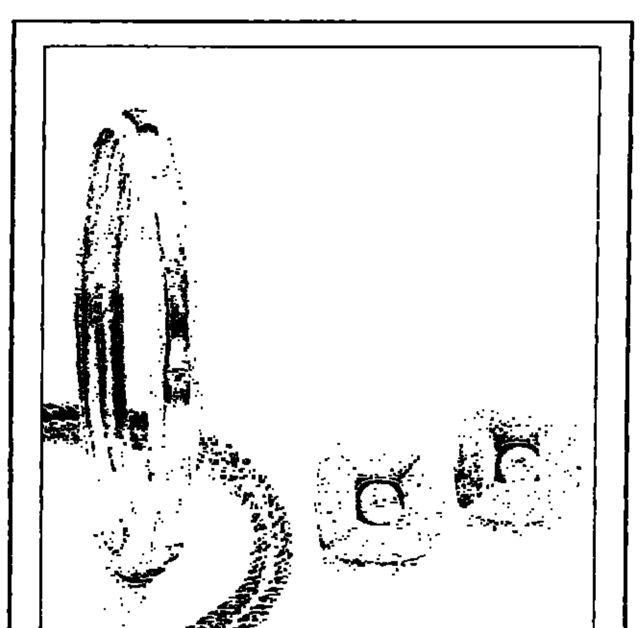

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MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

FOR the Baroness Trumpington to take her name from nothing more than a small village outside Cambridge is unfair. An entire metropolitan borough would hardly be substantial enough to serve as her namesake.

The noble baroness, winner of a *Spectator* parliamentarians' award earlier this year, deserves at least a county and arguably an entire mountain range for her name. Or perhaps a famous foreign battlefield: "Lady Rourke's Drift," or "the Countess Agincourt" would do.

But fate has decreed that it is as Lady Trumpington that the great woman, who is (unbelievably) 73, takes the dispatch box in the Lords to answer questions, most weeks, as one of the longest-serving ministers at Westminster.

She does so with rollicking good humour and an element of self-parody that cries out, even this late in her career, for a casting in a Christmas pantomime role pitched somewhere between Lady Bracknell and the Widow Twankey.

"Ooh," she once scolded a clever-clogs questioner from the Labour benches, "the noble lord is just trying to get my knickers in a twist again!"

Over on the red benches yesterday, as the Commons wound down for its Whitsun recess with a riveting debate on the Civil Service, Lady Trumpington took the floor to handle a question from Lord Eden of Winton about proposals to site a waste-disposal plant on the Wisley Airfield site, in a greenbelt, in Surrey. She said the matter had yet to be determined.

Up popped Lord Finsberg, anxious to inform her that he had once been an Environment Minister in the Commons and knew something about greenbelts. Lord Finsberg has not been long in the Upper Chamber.

Lady Trumpington paused, as though drawing on a long black cigarette holder, then huskily observed: "I'm very interested in my noble friend's background." There drifted over the red leather a sound as of a gathering of very elderly seals, barking. Their lordships were amused.

"When I lived in Cambridge," Lady Trumpington said, "I constantly had a thing in the back of my car, saying 'Keep Trumpington's Greenbelt'." The barking resumed.

The Countess of Mar rose. Though her pedigree looks very grand (*Dod's Parliamentary Companion* describes her as "31st in line, Margaret of Mar; created 1194, precedence 1404) Lady Mar, technocratic, with glasses, looks like a middle-ranking civil servant in the erstwhile Department of Education and Science. She told Lady Trumpington that, among the emissions given out by incinerators, dioxins generated by plastic waste were a serious problem. Could the noble baroness assure her that dioxins would be kept within a limit of 1 per cent?

Lady Trumpington looked at Lady Mar as though she had always assumed that dioxin was some kind of hangover cure, but now this awfully clever little person had brought her information for which she hadn't asked and which she could well do without. "I'm not terribly good on dioxins," she drawled, and referred Lady Mar to a government publication.

"And can I have her assurance," Lady Mar had asked, "that any waste disposal plant will have scrubbers in its chimney?"

Another pause. Trumpington peered at Mar. "Very tempting, my lords," she growled, in her large-gin-and-20-Gauloises voice. Basking on their red benches, all the seals barked.

Ministers rally MPs in bid to rescue divorce reform Bill

By Jill Sherman and Alice Thomson

THE Government made a last-ditch attempt to rescue its divorce reform Bill last night, the Law Society having withdrawn its support and Labour renewing a threat to vote it down.

Jonathan Evans, the junior minister in the Lord Chancellor's Department, has written to all MPs to rally potential Tory rebels to support the Family Law Bill, which risks being defeated in its final stages. He is also hoping to expose Labour divisions on the vote at the third reading.

Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, said last night that the Bill was "a dog's breakfast" which could not command support. He claimed that the Law Society's decision not to back it was the last straw. "This is a real body blow to a battered and beleaguered Bill whose days must now be numbered. The Bill is unworkable as it is. It is also unwanted. The Government must think again."

The Shadow Cabinet has yet to decide whether Labour should abstain or vote against the Bill at the third reading. Several Labour MPs are said to be concerned about throwing out a Bill that includes measures they support.

Yesterday Mr Evans accused Labour of playing party politics if it voted down the legislation. His letter to MPs plays on Tory rebel fears about quickie divorces, reassuring them that the new Bill will make it harder, rather than easier, to split up.

It claims that the present system of divorce lacks support on all sides of the House. "It permits quickie divorces in as little as three months on the basis of spurious allegations, without the couple having to give any thought to the consequences of their actions," writes Mr Evans. "The Family Law Bill heralds the end of this damaging and nonsensical system."

The Law Society's decision to withdraw its support will put the legislation in further jeopardy. The society's Family Law Committee said yesterday: "The Bill, if passed in its present form, would create a confusing set of delays and uncertainties for people who are already suffering after the breakdown of their marriage."

Mr Evans, who spent two hours with the society yesterday morning, accused it of being interested only in its own members. "Unfortunately I believe that this has more to do with the society representing the interest of lawyers than with any desire to see an improvement in family law in this country. I cannot see any aspect of the Bill that justifies their stance."

Last night several Tory rebels who voted against the Government on the Bill last month made clear that they had still not been won over by recent concessions.

Edward Leigh, a leading rebel, said: "One hundred and twelve Tories voted against the Government last time, it will be very difficult to get them all to change their minds."

He said the only way that rebels like himself and the former minister John Patten could be won over was if the Government introduced an amendment bringing back the notion of fault.

"What we want to see is a concession amendment which would allow couples to sign an affidavit that they take their view of marriage extremely seriously and acknowledge their responsibilities."

JOHN GILES

John Richardson posts a message to passersby yesterday at his beef farm near Otley, Yorkshire

Major names 'beef war cabinet'

Continued from page 1

removal of the beef ban, and implements a policy of noncooperation aimed at forcing the EU to accept scientific advice and give way.

Mr Rifkind declared last night that Britain would not be "pushed around" and rejected claims that it was blackmailing the EU.As the European Commission confirmed its decision to press for a lifting of the by-products ban on June 3, Mr Rifkind said he believed the reaction from Brussels was "positive and supportive." He said: "Of course they are not enthusiastic about what the Prime Minister announced. The crucial point is that we didn't expect the Prime Minister's announcement to be welcomed by other countries, but we are not going to be pushed around and that concentrates the mind wonderfully."

As Conservative MPs left Westminster yesterday for the Whitsun recess it was clear that their spirits had been buoyed by Mr Major's decision to raise the stakes with Europe. Some Conservatives were privately hoping for a lengthy war of attrition with the EU which they believe can only help the party's electoral chances.Some, recalling the impact of the Falklands war on Lady Thatcher's 1983 election victory, see a "war with Europe" as the only background against which the Tories could recover to win an election, possibly in the autumn rather than next spring.

Labour's caution will be underlined today when Tony Blair backs the call for the ban to be lifted during talks with the new Italian Prime Minister, Romano Prodi, in Rome.

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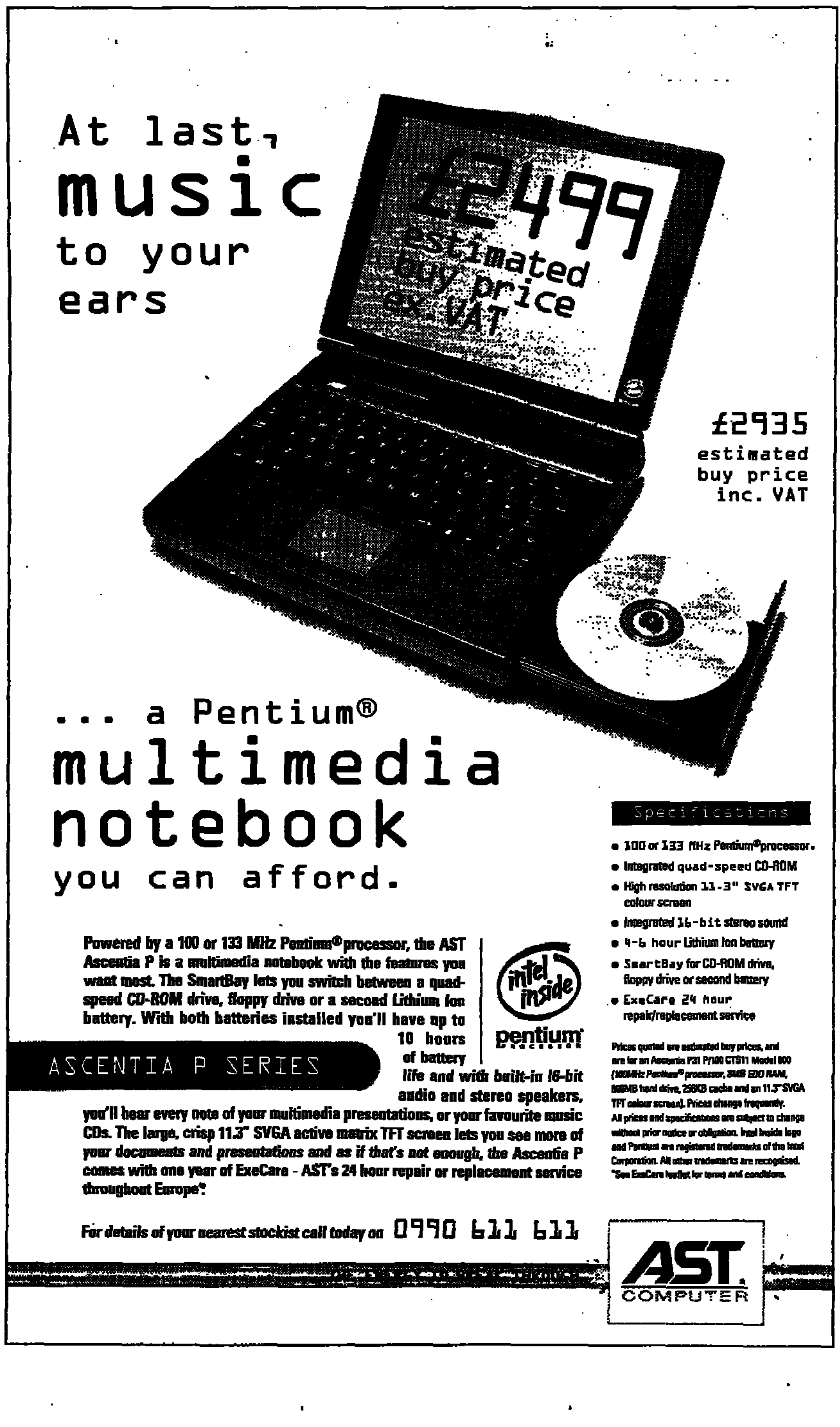
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Runcie attacks Church reforms

By Ruth Gledhill

LORD RUNCIE, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, will attack the management of the Church of England today with implicit criticisms of his successor, Dr George Carey.

In tonight's edition of *The Purple, the Blue and the Red* on Radio 4, Lord Runcie says he is worried by moves towards a "management Church" which he claims is addressing an increasingly narrow constituency. His criticisms come as the Church prepares for its General Synod in July, when radical changes to its structure and management systems will again be debated.

The synod has accepted initial proposals to reorganise the central structure to speed decision-making. Dr Carey is understood broadly to support the changes, but they are causing increasing concern among the Church's old guard, of which Lord Runcie, a liberal catholic, is a leading representative.

Interviewed by *The Times*'s Anthony Howard, Lord Runcie says: "My worry is that we are creating a Church which is better organised financially, better governed synodically, better promoted by its enthusiastic and specialist ministries, but actually it is addressing a smaller and smaller constituency."

Steve Jenkins, a Church spokesman, said: "For the past five years, church membership and attendance have been stable, so that does not suggest a narrowing constituency."

Dublin admits blunder over IRA extradition

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

IRISH police yesterday asked Scotland Yard to submit extradition warrants on coloured paper after it was disclosed that an IRA suspect escaped extradition because the papers had been mistaken for photocopies and shredded.

The Irish Parliament had to be suspended amid uproar for three hours yesterday when opposition MPs accused John Bruton, the Prime Minister, of misleading the Dail over the extradition of Anthony Duncan last month. Mr Duncan, 26, is wanted in Britain for questioning about IRA bombings before the ceasefire.

An extradition hearing at Dublin District Court collapsed last month when a solicitor acting for the Irish State said that the extradition warrants from Scotland Yard were "fundamentally flawed". Government sources at the time blamed the British authorities for sending incorrect documents.

Bruton: accused of misleading the Dail

However, Nora Owen, the Irish Justice Minister, admitted on Tuesday that the warrant had been "destroyed accidentally" by police as they made copies of it. In a written parliamentary reply, Mrs Owen said that an extensive investigation had established that Britain had sent the proper documentation.

As a result, Irish police have asked Scotland Yard to send extradition warrants on coloured paper in future so they can be distinguished from photocopies. A police source said: "It's very hard to make out the difference between an original and a good photocopy. If the original is on coloured paper, it won't be mistaken for a copy."

Irish ministers tried to play down the mistake yesterday in the Dail. Austin Currie, the Junior Justice Minister, described the controversy as "a storm in a photocopier". He added: "We understand that extradition is a very serious matter . . . But there is nothing sinister in this."

There has been a series of embarrassments over extraditions. In 1986 Evelyn Glenholmes, who was wanted in connection with an IRA bombing campaign in Britain, was freed after a Dublin court ruled that the extradition warrants were defective. In 1988 Patrick McVeigh, another IRA bombing suspect, was freed after a judge threw out the warrants because British police were not present to identify him in court.

Piltdown Man riddle cracked

Continued from page 1

my suspicions". The trunk was discovered by maintenance contractors clearing the loft space in the south-west tower of the museum in the 1970s. It came to the attention of Andrew Currant, a researcher at the museum, who mentioned its existence to Professor Gardiner.

Crucially, the two men discovered that the rodent dissections, pieces of fossil hippotamus and elephant teeth and other bones in the trunk were stained with iron and manganese in the same proportions as the Piltdown specimens. Traces of chromium also found in both are likewise thought to have been used in the staining process.

Discovery of the skull in 1912 at a gravel pit at Piltdown in Sussex caused a sensation as it appeared to provide proof of the "missing link" between man and ape and neatly tied in with prevailing views of human ancestry. But scientific tests in the 1950s proved that the skull came from a modern human and the jaw from an orang-utan, while other artefacts at the site were all shown to be of recent date.

For years the prime suspect was Charles Dawson, a lawyer, antiquary and second-rate geologist who had unearthed the find and who had long yearned for scientific recognition.

Professor Gardiner's findings are reported in today's issue of the scientific journal *Nature*.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Heads told to sack bad teachers

Weak head teachers are responsible for 15,000 incompetent teachers keeping their jobs, the Chief Inspector of Schools told MPs last night. Chris Woodhead said that existing employment laws made it possible to dismiss poor teachers, but that only tiny numbers were ever sacked for incompetence.

He told the House of Commons Education and Employment Select Committee: "There is a satisfactory way of dismissing incompetent teachers. The problem is one of determination. There isn't sufficient resolution to do what needs to be done."

Judge charged

A deputy High Court judge has been charged with drink-driving after being stopped in his home town of Lytham, Lancashire. James Bonney, QC, aged 48, has not sat in any judicial capacity since being appointed last February. He informed the Lord Chancellor of the incident earlier this week.

Accidental death

The death of a burglar who collapsed after a struggle with a homeowner was an accident, an inquest jury decided last night. Miklos Baumgartner, 56, of Ockbrook, Derbyshire, fought Robert Ingham, 22, last December. The cause of death was given as pressure applied to the neck, leading to heart failure.

Bowbelle sinks

The dredger which ran into the disco cruiser *Marchioness* on the Thames seven years ago with the loss of 51 lives has sunk, it emerged yesterday. The *Bowbelle*, renamed the *Bom Rei*, broke in two and went down 500 miles off the coast of Madeira on March 25. One crew member died.

Souness libel win

Graeme Souness, the former Liverpool and Scotland footballer, won an estimated £100,000 libel award after *The Mail on Sunday* offered unreserved apologies for a report claiming that he took "secret and corrupt bungs" on the transfer market while managing Glasgow Rangers and Liverpool.

PoW's prize

Eric Lomax, a former PoW, won the £25,000 NCR Book Award for *The Railway Man*, a harrowing account of life on the Burma railway and reconciliation with his torturer. David Malouf won the inaugural international IMPAC Dublin Literary Award of IR£100,000 for *Remembering Babylon*.

Risky business

The Army is to create a new breed of recruits called "risk candidates", who can join up for short spells to get a taste of military life. Instead of having to commit themselves to the full rigours of a 10-week training course, they will be allowed to come and go before making up their minds about an army career.

After-pub drama

Radio 4 is launching a new late-night drama aimed at people coming home from the pub on Saturdays, the BBC said. *P Division*, set in Glasgow, will be the first broadcast, at 10.15pm on July 6. *Saturday Night Theatre*, halved in length to 45 minutes, will be on at 8.50pm.

Breast decision

Two healthy sisters have decided to have their breasts removed to avoid the risk of cancer. Andrea Stevenson, 25, of Attenborough, Nottinghamshire, and her unnamed sister, 27, have a family history of breast cancer. Their mother died from it at 31 and their grandmother at 26.

Royal role

The Princess Royal carried out her first investiture on behalf of the Queen, further strengthening her position as a senior royal. She presented honours, including two knighthoods, to about 70 people in a 45-minute ceremony at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh.

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'To be blunt, I had a lot of girlfriends ... sometimes Miss World contestants and I would go out'

Self-made man who felt insecure despite riches

By Kate Alderson

OYSTON PROFILE

AN ABIDING belief that money and power made him attractive to women led Owen Oyston to be charged with rape. He was jailed yesterday for six years.

The self-made tycoon, who once had just £7 to his name as an unemployed salesman, boasts that he has never paid for sex. Throughout the late 1980s he was rarely seen without a young woman on his arm as he indulged in a life of fast cars, parties and racehorses.

His financial involvement with the Miss World contest gave him access to the contestants and a constant stream of beautiful girls flitted through his life, sharing his suite at the Park Lane Hilton or his table at Stringfellow's nightclub. He claimed there were too many to remember by name.

"I was divorced at the time and it was the last chance to enjoy myself," he later told police. "To be blunt, I had a lot of girlfriends over the years. Sometimes Miss World contestants and I would go out."

When police questioned him about rape allegations made by a 20-year-old model — a charge on which he was earlier acquitted — he said: "I *didn't have to impress* any one girl at that time because of the position I was in. There were plenty of girls available if I wanted to go to bed with them. I never paid anybody for sex, to put it crudely. It is something I have never done and never would do."

In 1988 he remarried his former wife, Vicki, six years after they had divorced. This failed to dampen his enthusiasm for models. In court he admitted affairs with four models between 1989 and 1993. "If I wanted young, beautiful women they were not hard to find ... I was as discreet as possible. I didn't go searching them out. These were largely young models looking for advancement and I was seen as someone who could advance them."

Ranked among the 400 richest Britons in *The Sunday Times*, the miner's son from Blackpool is thought to be worth about £40 million. He made his fortune in the property boom of the early 1980s and bought the rights to the Miss World contest in 1988.

He lives in Claughton Hall, a £3 million 16th-century manor house with 50 rooms. The property is on a hilltop overlooking Hornby, near Lancaster, and Oyston once kept wild bison in the grounds. A giant portrait of Oyston hangs over his bed; *another dominates* the en-suite bathroom.

Oyston is proud of the ornate marquetry on his Jacobean four-poster bed which, he boasted, was prone to *shake noisily* during sex. In evidence he said: "It can be quite unnerving. If you were on the bed having sexual intercourse, the canopy would move quite vigorously."

He began his entrepreneurial career as a salesman in a Saxone shoe shop but soon moved on to selling sewing machines door to door. He tried his hand at acting but managed to land only minor roles in *Coronation Street* and *Crown Court*.

It was in the early Sixties that Oyston stood as a Labour candidate in local elections in Blackpool and married Vicki Burns, a former Miss Blackpool. He became a substantial figure in Labour Party politics in the North West and is reputed to be the largest individual donor to the party.

The flamboyance cultivated as a struggling actor was exploited when he returned to the business world. He came to prominence through his chain of estate agencies which were the first to promise "no sale, no fee" deals and offer weekend opening. In 27 years he built up a chain of 98 branches based in the Midlands and the North West. He sold out to Royal Insurance in 1987 for £27 million ahead of the collapse in property prices.

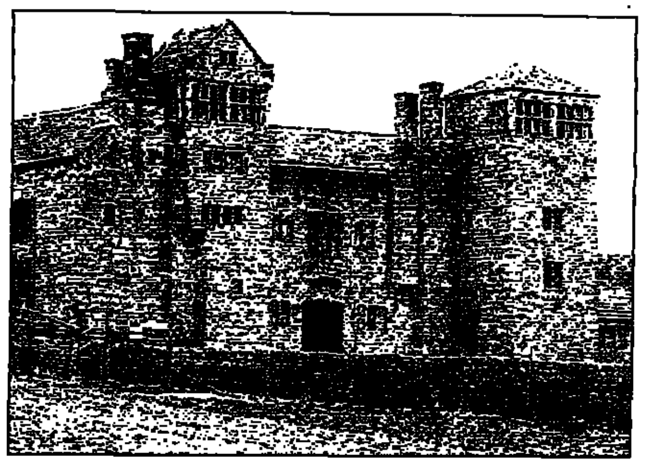
At the same time Oyston was adding to his portfolio of regional magazines and local radio stations. He took a controlling interests in Manchester's Piccadilly Radio, Red Rose Radio in Preston and a string of radio, publishing and cable television ventures.

He came to the rescue of the *News on Sunday*, the troubled *left-wing Sunday tabloid*. The paper collapsed less than six months later and Oyston lost a reputed £2 million.

In 1988 Oyston merged his radio interests with the company behind the Miss World pageants to create Trans World Communications. The venture was not a success and Eric Morley bought back his side of the business three years later.

Oyston enjoyed success as chairman of Blackpool Football Club. He took over in 1987 when the club was bankrupt and languishing in lower divisions. The club just missed promotion to the First Division but still has plans to build a £130 million stadium.

Oyston once said that he would like to return to the theatre "when I am established". "There is a lot of insecurity in all successful businessmen. I've never felt I made it."



Claughton Hall, Oyston's home near Lancaster

PETER LOMAS

Oyston, photographed with two unnamed dancers, was rarely seen without a young woman on his arm as he indulged in a life of parties and racehorses

Teenage anguish relived for jury

TWO women jurors wept as Owen Oyston's victim was forced to relive her ordeal as a 16 year old.

The elfin-faced woman, now 20, with bobbed hair and a broad Lancashire accent, cried freqently as she described how Oyston had made her perform oral sex in the rear seat of a car as they were driven to his mansion in the early hours.

The woman, known in court as Miss B, then told how she was forced to watch him have sex with a young woman before being ordered to undress and join them. Oyston had sex with her as she lay petrified, without asking whether she was willing. "He *treated me as if I were an* object and I'm not ... *I'm not*," she sobbed. "I was frightened. I was in a house in a bed with a guy I didn't even know, an old man. I was 16 years old and he didn't give a damn."

THE VICTIM

She had met Oyston while working for the now-defunct Model Team agency in Manchester, which she had joined at 14. He was introduced as "someone very important and dead rich".

Miss B did not disclose her ordeal for years, fearing that no one would believe her. She has not worked since the rape and smokes cannabis to help her to blot out what happened.

Love at first sight was given a second chance

By Kate Alderson

THE WIFE

VICKI OYSTON, a former Miss Blackpool, has remained loyally at her husband's side throughout the trial. In court she has been flanked by her daughters Karen and Heidi and friends as she listened to details of her husband's repeated infidelity.

Weeping as she gave evidence, she told the court: "I didn't know until the charges were put forward and I saw names of girlfriends. I didn't know. Nobody knows at the time. I suspected."

The couple met in 1962 when as Vicki Burns she won a number of beauty titles from Morecambe to Margate, using the prize money to fund her teacher-training studies. At 21 she became a local celebrity when she won *The Gazette and Herald* Girl of the Year contest in Blackpool and later reached the final of Miss Great Britain.

The couple married at Blackpool Register Office after a five-week courtship. "It was at a dance," she said later. "We only spoke a word or two. Then he asked me out. I certainly believe in love at first sight now."

The Oystons had five children — Heidi, Dawn, Karl, Adam and Karen — but in 1982 the marriage foundered because of Oyston's passion for work.

Vicki Oyston: showed loyalty during trial

However, they did not lead separate lives. For 18 months after the divorce Mrs Oyston stayed at Claughton Hall, to spend time with her children. On occasion she stayed the night in the same bedroom as her ex-husband. They continued to take combined holiday and business trips together.

They remarried at Lancaster Register Office in 1988 but their reunion soon ran into difficulties. Mrs Oyston admitted that the relationship had been fraught immediately after the remarriage because of her liaison with another man. In court her husband admitted he had exercised double standards.

In the weeks after she remarried, Mrs Oyston believed that her husband had arranged for Peter Martin, a Manchester model agency owner, to have her followed by a private detective. The couple eventually visited a marriage counsellor.

Praise for rape victim

Continued from page 1

rich and powerful with a strong personality. She was young, dependent and vulnerable. This aggravates the offence," said the judge.

"I do not believe she led you on in any way. I am, however, prepared to assume you hoped that your advantages, age, wealth and position would influence her to agree to what you wanted. When it came to it, she didn't and it must have been obvious she did not. As she so accurately put it: 'He treated me like an object and I am not.' It is impossible to know to what extent she has been traumatised by the experience of that night."

Oyston, sporting a silk marigold *handkerchief in the* top pocket of his navy-blue double-breasted suit, tried to whisper some reassuring words to his wife Vicki sitting beside their daughter Heidi in the well of the court a few yards away. After he was led to the cells, his wife refused to *comment* and Oyston's lawyers said they were looking at the possibility of an appeal.

Det Sgt Harry Harrison, one of the investigating team, said of Miss B: "She has shown tremendous courage in coming to court and giving her evidence ... I hope she can take some consolation from the fact that today's result can be seen as a victory for the average person in the street by showing no matter who an offender is, action can and will be taken when a person's privacy is violated."

The jury of eight women and four men sat for 18 days and spent eight hours and twenty one minutes before coming to their verdict.

Earlier in the afternoon the jury had found Oyston not guilty of raping another former model then aged 18 — known only as Miss A — at his 50 room mansion.

For the flamboyant businessman, the verdict marks the end of an extraordinary series of trials which are estimated to have cost £1.5 million in defence costs. He has appeared in three separate trials involving sexual offences. The earlier hearings were subject to *reporting restrictions* in order not to prejudice future cases.

During one of his earlier trials Oyston said: "I have always had an awful feeling about rape. Anyone who commits rape deserves the worst kind of sentence. Any woman who suffers rape has an awful ordeal and I would have great sympathy for that awful experience and its trauma."

Oyston lured Miss B to his manor house while she was working as a teenage model at the agency run by Oyston's friend and one-time business *associate, Peter Martin*.

Speaking outside the court after Oyston was jailed, defending solicitor Michael Burne said: "My client is obviously very disappointed at the verdict. He has always maintained his innocence and we intend to look carefully at *grounds for appeal*."

A spokeswoman for Women against Rape said of the verdict: "We are very glad that a man who has abused his position has been successfully prosecuted."

PREVIOUS RAPE CHARGES

THE jury that convicted Oyston of rape was never told that he had at one time faced charges involving six women. Last year a Manchester stipendiary magistrate ruled that he had no case to answer on charges of raping one girl and indecently assaulting two others. In February Oyston *faced two separate rape* trials, with the judge ordering that nothing could be reported on those cases until yesterday's verdicts.

In the first trial the jury could not decide on the allegation that Oyston raped Miss A, although it cleared him of indecently assaulting her in a separate alleged incident. The rape charge was ordered to be retried before the jury at Liverpool which yesterday cleared him of the charge.

Three weeks later another jury cleared him of raping a 20-year-old model who claimed he had sex with her as she slept in his suite at the Hilton Hotel, London.

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Senior solicitor wants Law Society chiefs to be ousted over 'farce'

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

FRESH turmoil erupted at the Law Society yesterday when one of its best-known past presidents, Rodger Pannone, attacked the leaders as unfit to govern.

He called a press conference to denounce the "unedifying political regime" of Martin Mears, the president, which he said had lost the respect of decision-makers in government, politics and the legal profession.

"The activities of the Law Society are viewed by outsiders as a humourless farce," Mr Pannone said. "I warn my colleagues that, if the society continues under its present leadership, it will be marginalised and solicitors will risk losing the trust of the public."

He said it was imperative for the standing of the solicitors' profession that Mr Mears and his deputy, Robert Sayer, be removed from office. He urged candidates "of integrity and leadership skills" to oppose them in next month's presidential elections. Otherwise a future government might consider removing the society's regulatory powers and it would become a "second-class trade union".

Mr Pannone, who announced that he was leaving the society's council after 18 years, as he had always intended, said he had not spoken out before because he had not wished to demean the profession by airing dirty linen in public over issues that could seem petty and irrelevant to the "great external problems of the profession". But he now felt "desperately worried for the future of the profession".

After the press conference, Mr Mears said: "I find it absolutely astonishing that people like Mr Pannone accuse me of bringing the profession into disrepute when people like him were going to put up John Young [who resigned as deputy president after sexual harassment allegations] to be president of the profession." Mr Young would have been president last year but stood down after the allegations. They had previously been raised when Mr Pannone was one of the officers of the society but Mr Young was not asked then to stand down.

Mr Mears denied that the society was held in low esteem and said he had been well received when he visited local law societies. He also rejected one of Mr Pannone's charges that he had visited the Lord Chancellor only once since becoming president. Mr Mears said that he had seen officials and the junior minister more than once and saw no reason to visit the Lord Chancellor to repeat previous arguments.

"If Rodger Pannone thought I thought I should see the Lord Chancellor every fortnight or whatever, why did he not pick up the phone and say, 'You must pay these essential visits'?"

He denied that top staff had left because of him.

Tenneh fit to fly home next week

AN AFRICAN orphan who was flown to Britain to have a bullet removed from her skull should be fit to return home next week.

Tenneh Cole, 5, from Sierra Leone, had a bullet removed from behind her right eye nine days ago by surgeons at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich, who have been delighted with her recovery.

"The doctors are looking at her being able to go home next Tuesday or Wednesday," a spokeswoman said. "They have been delighted with her progress and she is up and running about again. We are now trying to ensure that she will get the proper back-up and help when she returns home."

Doctors say the bullet could have caused Tenneh's brain to become infected and triggered sudden death. It cost her the sight of her right eye and much of her hearing. Doctors hope that this will improve with a hearing aid.

BRYN COLTON

Tenneh Cole, with staff nurse Helen Shorten, shows she has recovered

Wife in £9m split asks court for more

By Joanna Bale

THE wife of one of the world's richest men went to the Court of Appeal yesterday to ask for a bigger divorce settlement than the "excessively mean" £8.8 million she was awarded.

Katina Dart, 37, is the former wife of the American multimillionaire Robert Dart, also 37, whose £489 million family fortune is based on the manufacture of polystyrene cartons. When Mr Justice Johnson made the award to her last month he included £2,500 maintenance a month for each of their two children and provision for her to charter private planes.

James Munby, QC, her counsel, told the court that he could not quantify the full extent of her claims, which are also being made in the American courts. However, when asked by Lady Justice Butler-Sloss: "What is your client realistically looking for?" he replied: "One is talking at absolute minimum of many, many, many tens of millions."

The payment ordered in April was conditional on her transferring her interest in a house in Kensington and relinquishing two Porsches, a Ferrari, a painting, and 1,624 shares in the Dart Container Corporation. She claims in her appeal, on which the court will reserve judgment, that the award failed to make adequate provision for her security and that Mr Justice Johnson was not given a true picture of Mr Dart's wealth.

The couple, who were college sweethearts, married in 1980. Mr Dart filed for divorce last year, claiming that his wife had refused to have sex with him since 1993 and had had an affair in Greece. The hearing continues.

Jury says sex with model was not rape

By Adrian Lee

A BUSINESSMAN was cleared yesterday of the rape of a model who got into his bed during the night.

The Old Bailey jury, which was out for just ten minutes, was told that the alleged victim slipped into Anrick Ricketts's bed in March last year saying she was cold. She began cuddling him and he took it as an invitation to have sex. The woman, of West Indian origin, said she came from a culture where it was normal for couples to share a bed without having sex.

Mr Ricketts, 39, who owns a kitchenware business, said he agreed to let the woman, aged 21, stay the night at his house, in Chingford, Essex. They had known one another previously and had been at the same dinner party. "I put her in the best room in the house. Later she came back into my room and said it was too cold and the bed was too soft. She asked if she could she stay in my room. I told her: 'All right'."

The woman said she left the house traumatised by what Mr Ricketts had done to her. "He raped me for what seemed like hours. I screamed and screamed," she said.

The trial is estimated to have cost the taxpayer £50,000. Mr Ricketts said afterwards: "This sort of prosecution puts every man in danger. I should not have been put through this ordeal."

CORRECTION

The German Zeppelin *Hindenburg* (report, yesterday) exploded at her mooring mast in New Jersey, America, on May 6, 1937.

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Times exhibition applauded for revealing new dimensions to 19th-century master

Demand for Degas beats National Gallery record

By Emma Wilkins and Dalya Alberge

THE Degas exhibition opened at the National Gallery yesterday after selling more than 3,500 advance tickets, the largest number for any show at the London gallery.

As the public ignored the rain to queue for tickets, exhibition curators were hailing the show as a popular and critical success. Advance sales outstripped even the gallery's Rembrandt exhibition in 1992.

By lunchtime yesterday more than 1,200 people had visited the show chronicling Degas' later years, which is partly sponsored by *The Times* and will run until August. To prevent crowding in the exhibition's six rooms, ticket are limited to 200 for each half-hour. Those unable to gain immediate entry can buy tickets for later.

Michael Wilson, head of exhibitions and display, said: "We are absolutely delighted with the initial reaction to the show." British artists including Peter Blake, Sir Howard Hodgkin, David Hockney and Lucian Freud have given the exhibition their approval.

Richard Kendall, curator of the exhibition, said the show had caught the imagination of artists and public alike. "I'm delighted because people are wide-eyed with wonder and pleasure. A great number of these pictures are unfamiliar to them and even to some of the specialists.

"There is a feeling of freshness and excitement which is palpable in the galleries. There is a great deal of interest in the show among the art world.

"Many leading artists are going to visit, bringing their students and drawing materials. Lucian Freud will certainly come back. He visited last week and was very enthusiastic about the exhibition."

Mr Kendall, who has written an introduction to the catalogue, said that some visitors had been surprised by the audacity of Degas' works. "There is a sense of shock among some people that the work is so bold, dramatic in colour and looks so astonishingly modern.

"People are used to thinking of Degas as a 19th-century artist but his work defies many preconceptions." Stan Hayward, an animator who created the children's cartoon *Henry's Cat*, visited the exhibition yesterday and wondered if Degas had been influenced by early cinema. "He does a series of repetitive paintings, which seem very filmic in influence," he said.

Suzanne Cohen, an artist, thought that the size of the exhibition had been rightly judged: "You can look at each painting for a long time. Some exhibitions can be rather overwhelming. If anything, I would have liked a little more on his early work."

Bryan Atack, who had travelled from his home in York, said that the exhibition was better than the Cézanne show at the Tate Gallery. "It improved my perception of Degas, whereas my opinion of Cézanne went down after I went to the Tate. The layout brings you from the drawings to the paintings very well."

☐ *Degas: Beyond Impressionism*, £5 for adults and £3 for students, OAPs, unemployed and disabled people; advance booking available through First Call, 0171-420 0000; National Gallery information 0171-747 2885.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAID

ART critics have liked the Degas exhibition. Richard Dorment, in *The Daily Telegraph*, was impressed by both the main show and a complementary exhibition of a small selection of Degas' own art collection.

"On leaving them I felt windows had opened on to dimensions of Degas' art I hadn't know existed. You would be mad to miss them," he wrote.

***The Independent* devoted much of its front page yesterday to the exhibition with a review by the artist Sir Howard Hodgkin. "Don't let the hype that surrounded the Cézanne show at the Tate suggest that this exhibition is in any way second best ... this is an unmissable show by a great painter," he wrote.**

Richard Cork, in *The Times*, said: "The full range of Degas' late work is here displayed for the first time. And it gives the lie to critics who claimed that he had deteriorated into a narrow, repetitive old age."

Adrian Searle, in *The Guardian*, praises Richard Kendall's catalogue for "this marvellous exhibition" which illuminated "the often very real darkness of Degas' last years of production". He wrote: "Kendall's book-length essay is one of those all too rare instances in which inquisitiveness, speculation and genuine passion combine with scrupulous scholarship, not to say pungent writing, to drag the most sceptical reader along."

Don't let the hype that surrounded the Cézanne show at the Tate suggest that this exhibition is in any way second best. Many of the works on display at the National Gallery are physically very frail. We will never see them together again. And forget about Impressionism – that dread word hardly means anything any more. This is an unmissable show by a great painter.

The Independent

Some exhibitions answer questions, others pose them. These two shows certainly belong in the latter category, for on leaving them I felt windows had opened on to dimensions of Degas's art I hadn't known existed. You would be mad to miss them

The Daily Telegraph

Degas's late work is a world of colour, light and physical closeness for an almost blind, self-exiled man fighting his indifference to the world about him and transcending himself, his meanness, his vile opinions, his false protective character. In this marvellous exhibition, Degas undresses himself.

The Guardian

ORDRUPGAARDSAMLINGEN, COPENHAGEN

Woman combing her hair: "His work is so bold, so dramatic, so modern"

'It knocked me out ... incredibly sculptural'

By Dalya Alberge
and Emma Wilkins

THE exhibition has already been seen by many artists and writers.

The sculptor **Sir Anthony Caro** said: "I adored it. It was wonderful. I've always liked Degas, particularly the sculpture and drawings. I realised when I saw the catalogue that it was going to be good. It knocked me out. It's so incredibly sculptural, even though he's a painter and pasteller. In my view, he is one of the great sculptors of the 19th century, along with Rodin and Maillol. He's so modern."

Peter Blake, the pop artist, said: "Some of the big charcoals were a surprise. I hadn't seen much of the late drawings. They are so extraordinary ... You rather get used to Degas dancers. But at the show it's suddenly different. Reproductions look like pretty calendar pictures. They're not that at all. They're great big tough, wonderful things."

Leon Kossoff, the painter, said: "*A Woman Drying Herself*, borrowed from Brooklyn, is one of the most beautiful paintings I've ever seen. It's hardly ever shown. It's very large. Marvellous, beautiful and direct. It's encouraged me to draw more."

Allen Jones, the artist, said: "I got goosebumps looking at them. Such a wealth of material. I'm still in thrall to the experience. The drawings were the revelation — a muscular style which one didn't associate with Degas. They showed him feeling his way to a painting in a way which I associate with the 20th century."

Marina Warner, the writer, said: "I went in running a temperature and feeling unwell. I was cured by it. I came out feeling well. I'm not a freak New Age person. But it made me feel wonderful."

Julian Barnes, the writer, said: "It is a wonderful exhibition. I was specially impressed by the hang and use of a dark background, which would have accorded to what was probably in Degas' studio."

Anita Brookner, the writer, said: "The work is very noble. One has to think of the old man, shut up in his house in Montmartre, not going anywhere, probably a bit of a hermit, working like a student, without much outside influence. It has been said he behaved like a voyeur. Nothing is further from the truth. These are very pure."

Jonathan Miller, the theatre director, said: "Every time you go to an exhibition, you see works in a new light ... To see an enormously concentrated assembly of works by an artist particularly preoccupied with the human physique in its private moments of self-grooming fastens your attention on things which you had overlooked before."

Collectors compete for Hirst polkadot

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

THE first important work to be offered at auction by Damien Hirst was sold by Christie's in London yesterday for £32,200, four times its estimate.

Adrenochrome Semicarbazone Sulfonate (1992) features no dead creatures. It is one of his multicoloured polkadot paintings that, to the uninitiated, could be mistaken for a colour chart.

Nevertheless, it inspired frenzied bidding before going to an Italian private collector on the telephone who fought off intense competition from at least five others in the room. Prices leapt from a £5,000 start, reflecting Hirst's international standing.

Underbidders included Ivor Braka, a leading dealer and collector who described himself as a big enthusiast of Hirst. "The price is good. He's a very, very good artist. This is not simply fashion. It has made the right price in today's market." Mr Braka has two other Hirst pieces, including *In and Out of Love*, which features butterflies and a table with four ashtrays and stubbed-out cigarettes. It has been reserved by a museum.

Other bidders included Gordon Martin, representing a collector in Singapore with an upper limit of £25,000; and Jonathan Goodman, a publisher who said he was trying to start a Hirst collection. He would have paid "half the figure it went for".

Collectors are prepared to pay more than £150,000 for sculptures by Hirst, 31, who won last year's £20,000 Turner Prize for his sliced cow and calf in formaldehyde, *Mother and Child Divided*. As he has explained: "I like to cut things open. It's together but separated."

For some he is a master of gruesome gimmick with a shock-horror fascination for carcasses, blood and entrails. For others, he is the "Michelangelo of his day".

Photograph, page 24

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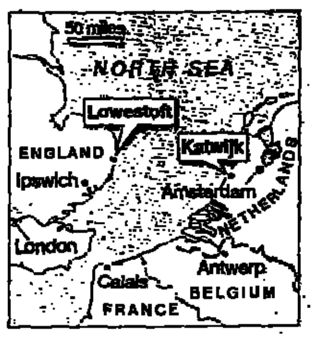
Lowestoft is cast adrift as Dutch interest goes flat

By Michael Horsnell



THE affair began on the chilly shores of the North Sea 34 years ago and blossomed into full romance as the fishing communities of Lowestoft and Katwijk in The Netherlands exchanged civic, school and sporting visits.

The mayor of the sleepy Dutch seaside town, a Mr H. Duiker, said at the official twinning ceremony in 1962: "The two towns have so much in common that any link with any other town could hardly have been considered." Frank Jones, then mayor of Lowestoft, said: "I cannot think of any better fraternity than the people who get their living from the sea. There are no frontiers between us and the only thing that divides us is the sea."

For 30 years the two towns nurtured a bond that brought their local chess clubs into competition and even saw several marriages between their citizens.

Now, however, the proud East Anglian port has learnt that its civic charms, including miles of golden sands and celebrated fish and chip shops, no longer appeal to its twin across the sea. Katwijk's mayor, Boel van Wouwe, and the deputy town clerk, Jan Mulder, visited last week to explain politely that they were ending the link with Waveney District Council, which took over from Lowestoft Borough Council in 1974.

The reason for the split is apathy; the 40,000 citizens of Katjiwk see little point in civic ties with the most easterly town in England. They are, in short, bored with Lowestoft.

"There is little point in going on with twinning if no one is interested in it," Mr van Wouwe said. He pointed out that a campaign to promote travel to Lowestoft three years ago had aroused no response.

"Our ending of the twinning agreement is nothing personal against Lowestoft. We all like the town. But our council decided that a twinning agreement had to involve the community, not just the local authorities," Mr van Wouwe added.

"In the last few years there have been hardly any visits between the towns. We decided it was best not to have a 'sleepy' twinning. Absolutely no insult to Lowestoft is intended, although, we have heard they are rather upset."

In Lowestoft, which originated as a Danish settlement, officials put a brave face on the news and discounted suggestions that Katwijk was seeking a more exciting twin, such as Brighton. Malcolm Berridge, chief executive of Waveney council, said: "They told us there had not been a response from their community at large to develop things further. The links started between us many years ago and things have changed. They seem to have exhausted their interest in us.

"Although there will no longer be civic visits, I am sure the relationships between individuals in the Lowestoft area and in Katwijk will continue. It is certainly not ending on a sour note and the Dutch will be most welcome to come and see us any time. I would not class what has happened as an international incident."

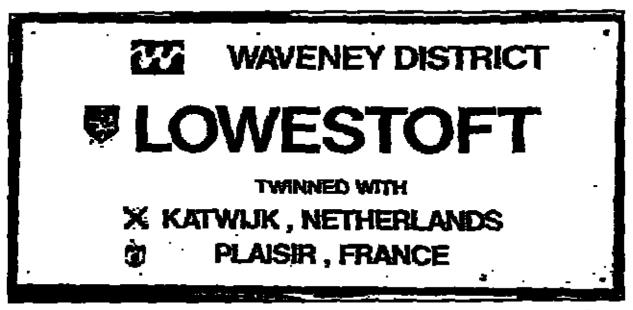
Trevor Carter, council chairman, said: "We are very proud of Lowestoft and, although there have been some knocks over the years, we now feel we are on the way up."

The Suffolk town has the consolation of being twinned with Plaisir in France. Mr Berridge said he had heard no suggestion that the Dutch considered Lowestoft boring. "It is just not true that there is nothing to do in Lowestoft. The thousands of visitors we have every year would vouch for that. We never had any shortage of things to show the Dutch when they came over on official visits every four years."

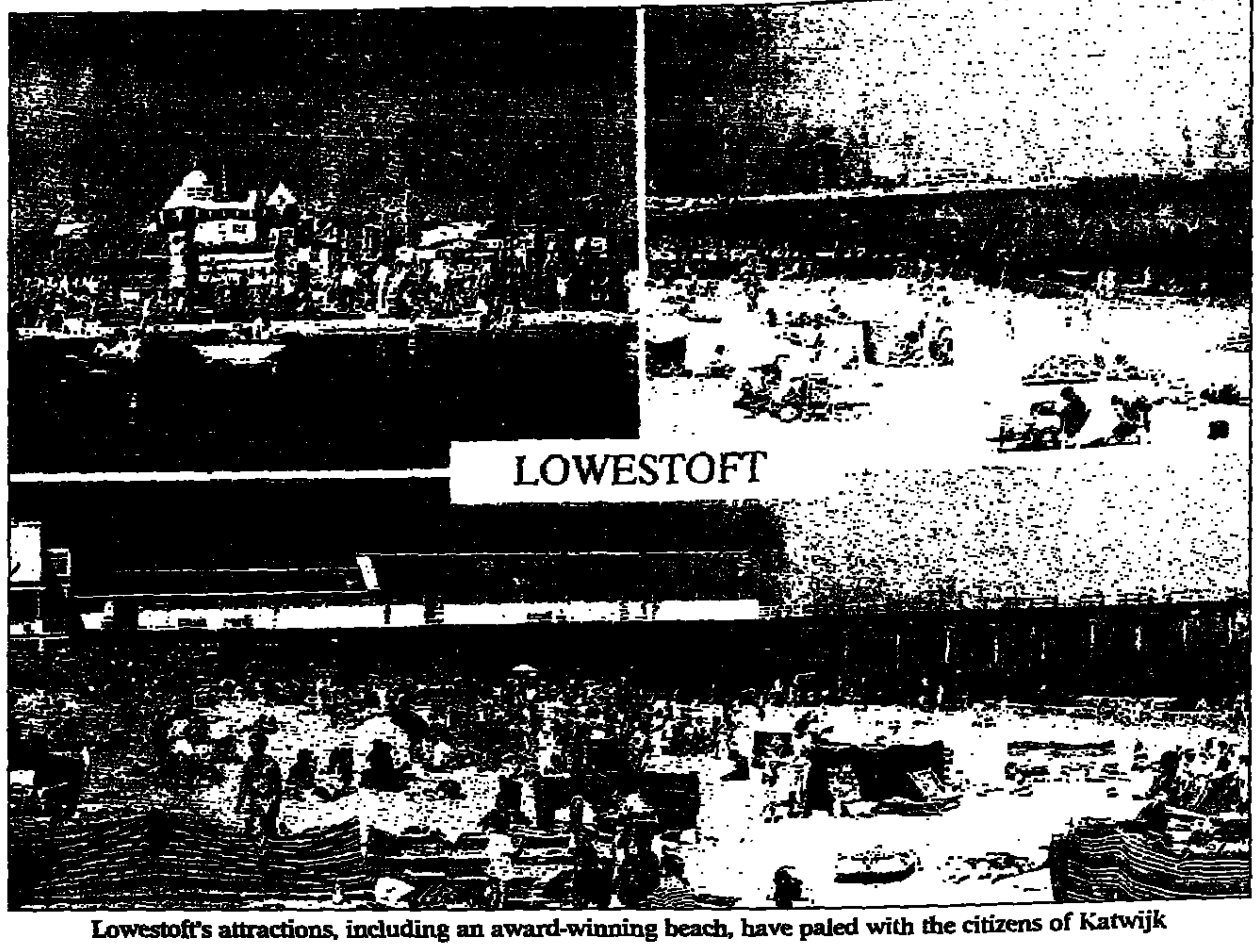
He said the town, which has 60,000 residents, was not a cultural desert: there was the Pleasurewood Hills theme park, two theatres, a variety of restaurants, and a pavilion complex.

In any case, it was not hard to find those in Lowestoft yesterday who pointed out that Katwijk did not exactly lie at the pulsating heart of Holland. It has 40,000 residents and is one of the largest municipalities in the dune and flower-bulb area. A vast modern industrial estate dominates the economy, which used to depend on fishing and farming.

The town has a lighthouse, a museum, a whitewashed church dating from 1460, the inevitable windmill ... and not much else.



Signing off: the town's Dutch link has been severed



Lowestoft's attractions, including an award-winning beach, have paled with the citizens of Katwijk

Victorian bylaw could clean Squeegee boys off Brighton streets

By Bill Frost

POLICE in Brighton are dusting off a long-forgotten bylaw to rid the streets of a modern-day nuisance, the "Squeegee boy" car windscreen washer. Prosecutions against three of them are already being considered: other forces, including the Metropolitan Police, are awaiting the outcome with interest.

Brighton's campaign was launched by Sergeant Peter Ewen, who bore the brunt of complaints from drivers abused or intimidated by the sometimes aggressive young men with buckets and Squeegees. They are reported to earn up to a £1,000 a week, with motorists paying £1 for a 30-second wipe of an often clean screen.

Sergeant Ewen said that in the past some women drivers had abandoned their cars in fear at one notorious Brighton junction, Preston Circus, where many of the screen-washers gather. There have also been violent confrontations. In 1993, Simon Ferguson was jailed for six months after attacking a driver at traffic lights in the town. Sean Blackman, his victim, wore a neck brace for almost a year after being punched.

Trawling through the statute books, Sergeant Ewen came across the 1882 Municipal Corporation Act which, he believed, gave Sussex Police the powers they needed to act. "It says 'no person shall, on any street or public place, for the purpose of selling or advertising any article or obtaining custom or employment, tout or importune to the annoyance or obstruction of passengers'. The word passenger means road users who are definitely annoyed and sometimes obstructed by them. If the washer boys are successfully prosecuted they face fines up to £1,000."

One of the first Squeegee boys in Brighton was Steve North, a then unemployed actor who abandoned his trade and went on to star in the successful ITV series *London's Burning*. "I did it for a bit of extra cash and all the drivers were really friendly," he said. "I noticed a couple of people have become aggressive in their manner, but others just make me laugh."

Another practitioner of the art, who only wanted to be referred to as Steve, denied that he and his colleagues were a public nuisance. He said: "If they do get rid of us with this daft old law, I reckon a lot of drivers will miss the service we offer."

A Squeegee merchant in action at Preston Circus

NEWS IN BRIEF

Guinness squatters evicted

Squatters living in tents and huts on a derelict site owned by Guinness in Wandsworth, southwest London, are to be evicted after the High Court granted a possession order.

Last week, the inhabitants of the township — dubbed "Pure Genius" — won a reprieve because of a legal technicality. But at a ten-minute private hearing yesterday they offered no defence to the repossession claim.

Woman held

A woman was being questioned by Southampton detectives after three attempted abductions of children in pushchairs. Extra uniformed and plainclothes police had been patrolling the city centre shopping area.

Force justified

A greengrocer who tackled a robber, fracturing his skull and breaking his ribs and fingers, will not be prosecuted, police said. Ken Dunn, 49, from Barnsley, South Yorkshire, had used reasonable force, it was decided.

Sentence cut

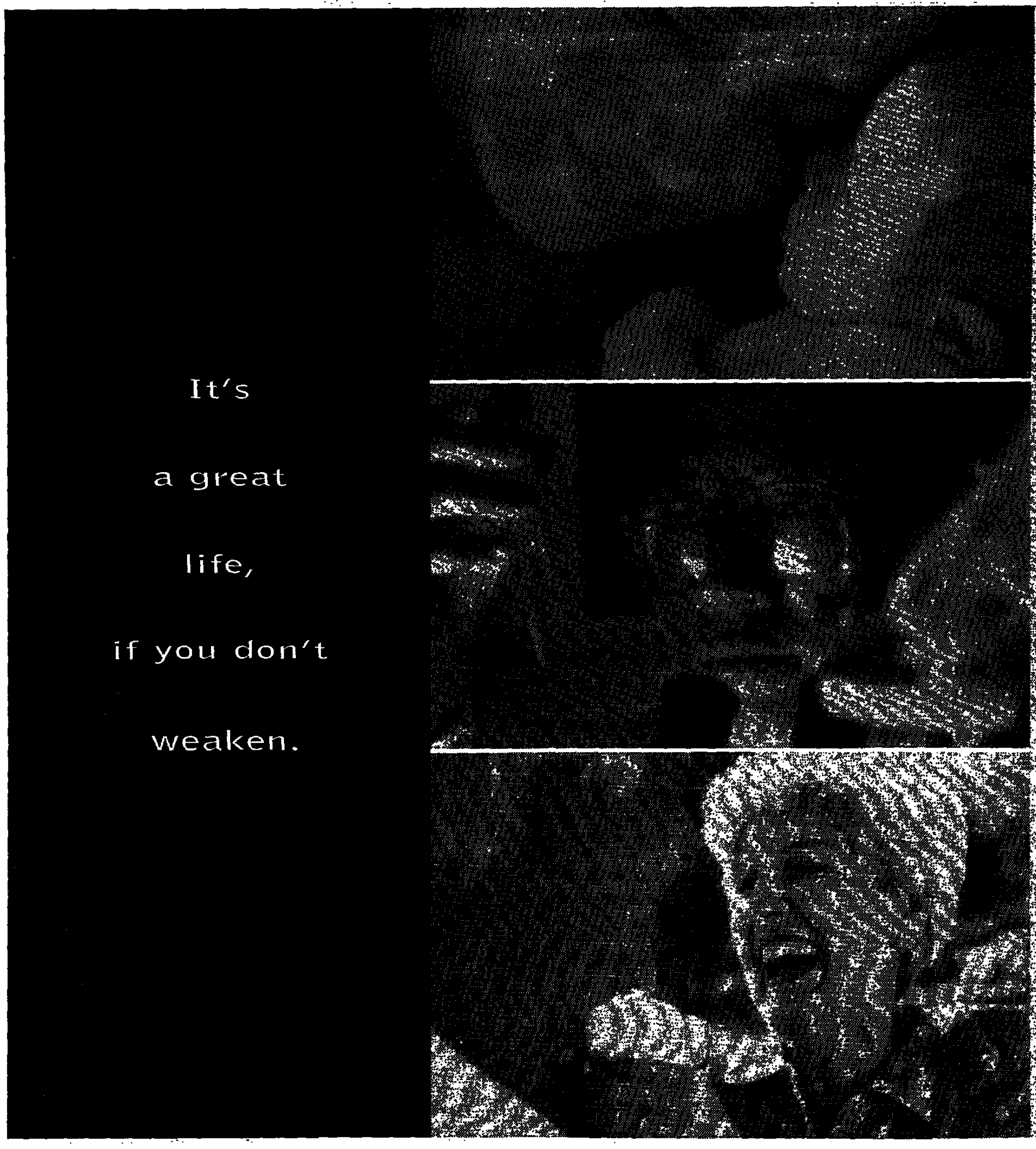
Bernard Enerio, 18, given six years' youth custody for his part in an attack a year ago on the husband of Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions, has had his sentence cut at the Court of Appeal to four years.

£3.5m court win

Silverstone Circuits, owner of the Formula One Grand Prix track, won a £3.5 million High Court settlement from its former solicitors Hextall Erskine and Co, for wrong advice over the purchase in 1992 of a retail car business.

Buyout cleared

The European Commission has cleared the purchase by France's Compagnie Générale d'Entreprises Automobiles, which belongs to Compagnie Générale des Eaux, of the British Rail subsidiary Network SouthCentral.



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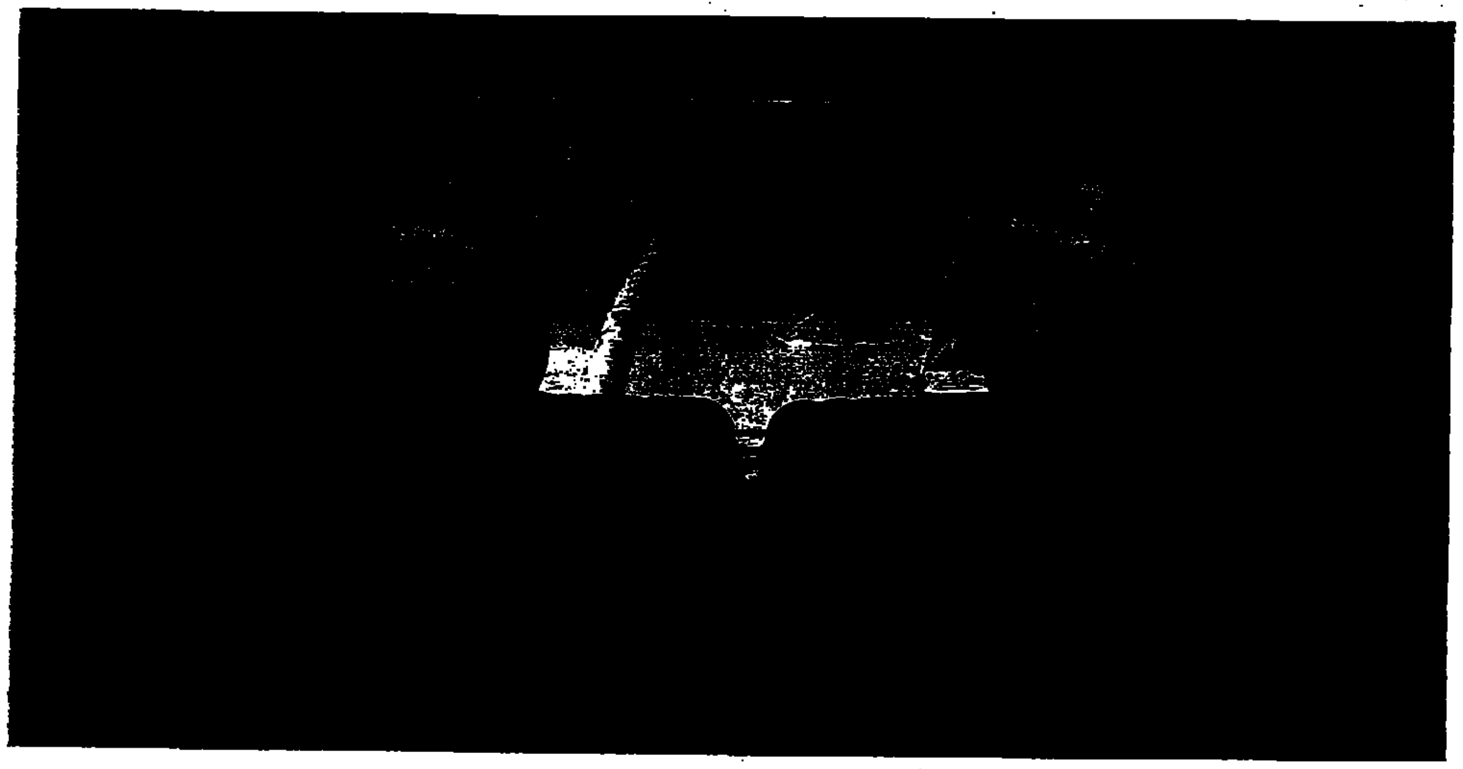

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Experiment gave pioneer Jaymee an extra year of life

By Jeremy Laurance
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE private doctor who agreed to treat Jaymee Bowen, the girl who died on Tuesday night, took a huge risk. The experimental treatment — donor lymphocyte infusion — had been given to only a handful of children before.

Dr Peter Gravett, consultant haemotologist at the private Portland Hospital for Women and Children in central London, decided to give Jaymee the treatment only after a chance encounter at a medical conference in Switzerland a week after he had started her on her third course of chemotherapy. Two specialists who had used the treatment in adults persuaded him that it could work for Jaymee.

The treatment was opposed by the 22 NHS centres specialising in childhood cancer on the ground that it was unethical to experiment on a child who was too young to give informed consent. It was for this reason that Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commission refused to fund the treatment.

Donor lymphocyte infusion involves clearing the leukaemia cells with chemotherapy and then flooding the body with lymphocytes (white blood cells) from the bone marrow of a compatible donor — in this case Jaymee's sister Charlotte.

However, the treatment can trigger a reaction in which the immune system attacks the body with horrific consequences. Professor Ross Pinkerton, an expert on acute myeloid leukaemia at the Royal Marsden Hospital, southwest London, and one of those who originally treated Jaymee, spelt out what these were in the book *Jaymee: the Story of Child B*, by Sarah Barclay, the *Panorama* reporter who made a programme about her last years. "You can lose the surface of the skin over almost the entire body. The cells can also act against the liver and the bowel . . . I read somewhere earlier in this controversy that dying of leukaemia was no worse than dying from the side-effects of experimental treatment. This is simply not the case."

The reaction is called graft-vs-host disease and in Jaymee's case was kept in check until her final months, when it settled in her lungs. She began to have difficulty breathing, it became painful to swallow and sometimes she was so short of breath that she could hardly climb stairs.

Interest in donor lymphocyte infusion has been intense as its successful use in adults has become clear. The Royal Marsden has now agreed a trial in children. Had Jaymee sought the treatment six months later, she would probably have been granted it on the NHS. Stephen Thornton, chief executive of Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commission, said yesterday: "Medical science moves on and the decision we took 12 months ago might have been different had we faced it today." Although the treatment bought Jaymee an extra year of life, she seemed less certain recently whether she would go through it all again. "I'd give up straight away," she said. "I've had four lots of treatment already and there just comes a time when you can't go on with it. You just give up. Four times is too much."

Asked if she was prepared for death, she said: "There's nothing to be scared of and hopefully it won't be painful. I don't want to die, but if I do and there is an afterlife, I want to come back as a butterfly."

> ‘I've had four lots of treatment already and there just comes a time when you can't go on with it. You just give up’

Body and Mind, page 18

Grieving staff deny that they abandoned girl

THE HEALTH AUTHORITY

THE NHS officials who refused to fund Jaymee Bowen's experimental treatment defended their decision yesterday. Stephen Thornton, chief executive of Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commission, said he had been angered by suggestions that the authority had abandoned care of the girl.

"She had years of treatment on the National Health Service. It was only the particular experimental treatment that was requested which we refused. We never denied her treatment because we could not afford it, but because expert clinical opinion at the time was that it was not the right thing to do."

After the experimental treatment was completed, the girl's ordinary care had been paid for by the NHS, he said. "We are paying regardless of the cost. The care was needed, and that is what the NHS is there for."

Mr Thornton said the authority had been saddened by Jaymee's death. "We had been led to believe that she was doing pretty well, so it was a shock. We are very sorry and our hearts go out to the family. It must be very difficult for them. It has been a wretched year for everybody.

"The health commission has been in a difficult position. These decisions are always tortuous. We have been very consistent in our view. If we were asked again, we would do exactly what we did last year, which was to seek clinical opinions of the highest order. We would talk to the experts in the field at the NHS's best institutions and we would then act on the basis of those opinions. If medical science has moved on since then, we would have to give it more thought."

Dr Ron Zimmern, director of health policy and public health, said the commission greatly regretted the girl's death. "It is not a question of 'I told you so'. We have to distinguish very clearly between treatments that are established and treatments which different doctors feel differently about. Every clinical decision has to be taken in light of the needs of every patient living in our area.

"Experimental treatment like this is a very difficult issue. After all, we do not know whether she would have lived for a year, as she did, without this sort of treatment."

Dr Zimmern said the commission would carefully consider the issue of health service "rationing" of treatment. "It is very clear that the health authority has to take these decisions against a background of ethical values."

Jaymee with her father David and sister Charlotte, top, who helped to prolong a life that had its share of smiles

Father's words console doctor who dared

THE CONSULTANT

PETER GRAVETT, the consultant haemotologist who treated Jaymee Bowen privately, said that the experiment had been worthwhile because it had given her another year of life. Conventional treatment would have given her only a few weeks, he said.

"The primary consideration has to be the patient in front of you, and so long as you are acting in their interests you are in the right. I had to look at all the options and pick the best one. I would do the same thing again in the same circumstances."

Dr Gravett said Jaymee's father, David Bowen, was glad the treatment had been undertaken. "He certainly felt the battle was worth it because of the amount of time it gave Jaymee. He packed a lot into that year. His parting words to me were, 'Don't let anybody tell you we failed.'

"At least he feels he did everything possible. There weren't any unturned stones."

Dr Gravett said he would miss Jaymee, whom he had known for more than a year. "She was good company and we got on well. I will miss her almost as much as a member of my own family."

He said he had grown more optimistic that the girl might be cured as the months passed after the treatment. But the reaction triggered by the treatment, known as graft-vs-host disease, had settled in her lungs and threatened her life. Giving drugs for the lung condition had switched off the treatment that had been keeping the leukaemia at bay and it had then returned.

"We did not know how ill she was when she came back in. Over the previous few weeks she had been getting problems with her breathing but when she came back into hospital there was a good prospect of her responding and going out again. But when the leukaemia came back we knew there was no chance of it going away.

"We got very close to success from the technical point of view but it was not possible to keep in check the process attacking her lungs."

Of her final day, Dr Gravett said: "She was fully conscious and talking in the afternoon and then suddenly in the evening she lost consciousness and died a few hours later.

"It is difficult to say whether she knew she was dying. I did say to her that her chest was getting better but that her blood was getting worse. She never picked up on that, though. I don't think she actually thought that was the end."

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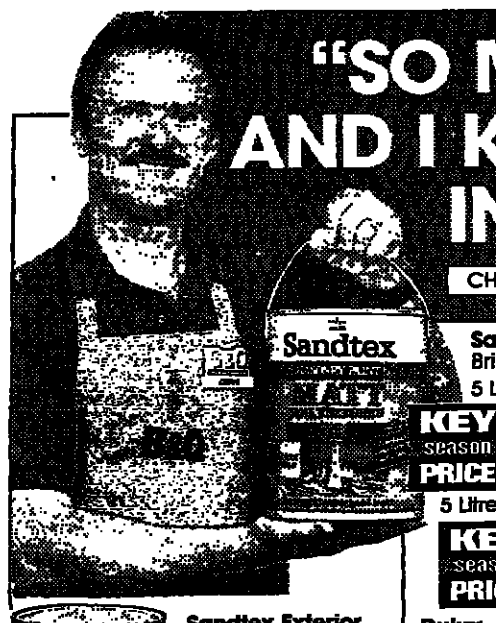

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Lloyd accused of misleading the party

Labour drops candidate tainted by terrorism

By Jill Sherman and Ian Murray

Lloyd: very angry and disappointed

THE Labour Party's ruling body yesterday deselected John Lloyd, the parliamentary candidate for Exeter, over his past links with terrorism in South Africa.

Last night Mr Lloyd said that he was "very disappointed and very angry" and that he would take legal advice on the decision. The National Executive Committee turned down an 11th-hour plea by his supporters, who had travelled to the party's London haedquarters to lobby members at the meeting.

Mr Lloyd has admitted taking part in terrorism against South Africa's apartheid regime in the 1960s. He says that he was a driver with the African Resistance Movement (ARM) when it bombed targets such as radio masts and electricity pylons in remote areas.

He also gave evidence in the 1960s against an ARM colleague, John Harris, who was hanged for the 1964 bombing of a Johannesburg rail station, in which a woman died.

Labour headquarters said there was no right of appeal against the NEC's decision, taken because Mr Lloyd had "misled" it over his involvement in ARM activities. The executive had warned him in March that it would deselect him if he refused to stand down as parliamentary candidate.

In another move aimed at protecting Labour's credibility, the NEC disbanded the party's group on Hackney council in London after a dispute over the choice of mayor. Almost half the Labour councillors had refused to vote for the party's candidate.

The group has also been dogged by a series of allegations including vote-rigging and dirty tricks. Many councillors had refused to follow the Labour whip and there were claims that an unauthorised decision-making body called the Manifesto Group had been forming policy in private.

Labour headquarters has been conducting an investigation into the council over the past six weeks, interviewing members and taking written evidence. Yesterday the NEC considered the report and decided that the group should be disbanded for a week, losing all its influence over council policymaking.

The group will be will be restored only if the councillors decide to abide by the rules and vote together. All 39 group members will be summoned to a meeting, probably next week, when they will be asked to confirm in writing that they will abide by Labour's standing orders and will obey the party whip. Any councillor who subsequently fails to toe the party line will be suspended.

One official said: "It was felt that in order to restore discipline they had to disband the group." He pointed out that four members of the group — the council leader, chairman, secretary and the chief whip — would not be affected and would still be able to take executive decisions. The council will continue to carry out its functions and all 39 Labour members will continue to be councillors.

The dispute in the Labour group came to a head at the mayor-making meeting last week. Twenty councillors voted for Linda Hibberd, who was a leader of a campaign last October that won the reinstatement of a housing director who had been sacked for racism but subsequently cleared of the accusation. The other 19 obeyed instructions from the chief whip to support Sharon Patrick, who had the backing of the NEC.

Mrs Hibberd was supported by all the Tory and Liberal Democrat councillors and was elected by 33 votes to 19. Philip Pearson, one of the Labour rebels, said that he and his colleagues had been warned them they were liable to be disciplined by the party if they failed to vote for her.

☐ The NEC ordered a re-run of the selection contest in Glasgow Govan because of flaws in the original voting procedure. In December Mike Watson, MP for Glasgow Central, won the candidacy by one vote over Mohammed Sarwar. Mr Sarwar, a businessman, appealed and the executive concluded that many of the voters were ineligible. The new ballot will be held on June 24.

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Exeter Labour Party members demonstrating their support for John Lloyd before the NEC meeting yesterday

Battle of ideas is not yet won, says Blair

By Jill Sherman
Chief Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR has admitted that Labour has not yet won the ideological battle on which a general election victory depends.

The Labour leader says that the main problem facing the party is to come up with inspirational ideas that are also practical and realistic. He suggests that the best way of achieving this is to go beyond party politics and set up a more open relationship with "the new intelligentsia."

In an article to be published in *Prospect* magazine next week he says that values and ideas still provide the basis for policy decisions. "They give shape to a movement and meaning to a programme."

He cites David Marquand, professor of politics at Sheffield University, who said in a recent article that one of the safest rules of politics was that decisive victories followed ideological victories. Professor Marquand said: "Like armies sweeping through fortifications flattened by aerial bombardment, the Attlee and Thatcher governments beat demoralised opponents whose ideas had come to seem risible or contemptible or both."

Mr Blair says: "Labour is not yet at that stage. The synthesis we achieved in 1945, or the Tories managed after 1979, does not come easily."

He goes on to argue that the challenge for a modern political party is to recognise "difficult realities" while providing a programme and message which appeals both to activists and voters. "To put it another way: the task is to combat apathy and disillusionment with politics without sacrificing realism and credibility." He suggests that the only way now to free political debate and encourage new ideas is to use a coalition of thinkers that includes both politicians and intellectuals.

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Army wives fight housing sell-off

By James Landale, Political Reporter

THE Government came under pressure from army wives yesterday to drop the planned sell-off of almost 60,000 military homes.

The women warned ministers of "irretrievable damage" to Service life if the privatisation of the Married Quarters Estate goes ahead. They said it would harm morale, recruitment and the Army's operational effectiveness, and could prompt many resignations.

Under the scheme, the Government could raise £2 billion selling the homes to the private sector and renting them back. Several consortiums have made bids for the property and the winner will be announced later this summer.

Critics say the move has been forced on service chiefs simply to pay for tax cuts and compensation to beef farmers. Senior officers have made their opposition known and prompted the Commons Defence Select Committee to carry out an investigation.

Cherry Milne, chairman of the Army Families Federation, told the committee yesterday that the sale would mean fewer homes being available. Soldiers returning to Britain at short notice would be forced to live outside of army communities. "We will lose the integrated community spirit," she said. "If families can't cope in this new isolated situation they will take their husbands out of the Army or the husbands will say 'Enough. I don't want to see my family going through that'."

Defence officials rejected Mrs Milne's claims, arguing that the sell-off would improve army housing and make its availabity more flexible.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: The Commons rose for the Whitsun recess. Business will resume on June 4.

TODAY in the Lords: Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-term Breaks) Bill, third reading; Law Reform (Year and a Day) Bill, third reading; debate on academic research careers for graduate scientists; Dogs (Fouling of Land) Bill, committee; debate on protecting the Public White Paper.

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Musicians and critics reject today's idols in favour of Sixties giants who transfixed a generation

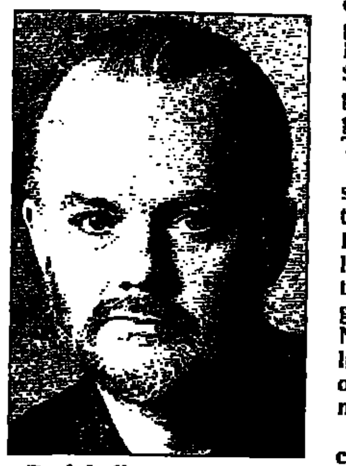
Guitar aces tip Hendrix to lead their rock of ages

By Adrian Lee

ERIC CLAPTON or Jimi Hendrix? Chuck Berry or Pete Townshend? Just who is the greatest rock guitarist?

The magazine *Mojo* has tried to end the debate by conducting a survey of the music industry's most influential performers and critics. But its definitive list of the 100 guitar giants, headed by Hendrix, has ruffled some of rock's most legendary feathers.

Clapton, revered by his fans, limps in at No 6 behind Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones. Peter Green, of Fleetwood Mac, appears at No 3, Hank Marvin is at 44, but there is no a place in the top 100 for Noel Gallagher of Oasis. "We know we will confound and upset some people," said Mat Snow, editor of *Mojo*, which sells 58,000 copies a month.


Peel: believes such lists are self-indulgent

The judges consisted of guitar-playing luminaries from both sides of the Atlantic, including Keith Richards, BB King, Ry Cooder, John Lee Hooker, Peter Green and Buddy Guy, the blues guitarist from Chicago. They were asked to nominate the world's greatest guitarists, taking into account not just technical ability but their influence on music.

Keith Richards nominated Chuck Berry; BB King's favourite was T-Bone Walker, one of the first great blues guitarists; Peter Green chose Hank Marvin and Hubert Sumlin (Howlin' Wolf's lead guitarist), while Noel Gallagher cited Johnny Marr, of The Smiths, and Neil Young.

Mr Snow said: "We are not saying they were the best technically — people such as Keith Richards are often overlooked as guitarists but are the vital components to their groups' sound. Someone like Noel Gallagher is not on the list because he is a slightly one-trick guitar player who is not particularly original."

More than half the experts chose Hendrix, who died in 1970. The radio presenter John Peel, who was not among the 40 questioned, said: "These lists are terribly self-indulgent. Clapton is probably in the right place — I used to like him but the stuff he does now is piffle."

Eric Clapton, left, No 6 on the list, was described variously as "overrated" and "entertaining" while Jimi Hendrix, top, was the runaway favourite. Andy Summers of the Police, right, was cited as "a glaring ommission" but Noel Gallagher of Oasis left the critics distinctly underwhelmed

He said there were several serious ommissions: Duane Eddy; Dick Dale, whose surf music was repopularised by the film *Pulp Fiction*; and Diblo Dibala, an African guitar player.

David Sinclair, rock critic of *The Times*, said: "In my view the most glaring omission is Andy Summers of the Police. I think he will be really insulted because there are people in that list who are not in his class. Clapton is overrated — he has done nothing for 20 years and he will mean nothing to the younger generation."

The concert promoter Harvey Goldsmith, who has worked with the top ten guitarists and many others in the leading 100, said: "There can be no dispute about Hendrix — he was the best, extraordinary, because he was so different. Hendrix was the most innovative of all.

"I would have put Clapton at two — he is the most entertaining guitarist there has ever been. It is good to see Jeff Beck so high [13] because he is very underrated and, in my view, one of the best." Mark Knopfler of Dire Straits was another who might feel upset to be overlooked, Mr Goldsmith said.

The producer Eddie Kramer summed up the legacy of Hendrix. "The guitar in Jimi's hands was an extension of his body. He had total command of the instrument."

Johnny "Guitar" Watson, obituary, page 23

TOP 50

1	Jimi Hendrix
2	Steve Cropper (Booker T and the MGs)
3	Peter Green (Fleetwood Mac)
4	Keith Richards
5	Chuck Berry
6	Eric Clapton
7	Jimmy Page
8	T-Bone Walker
9	Neil Young
10	Richard Thompson
11	BB King
12	Jimmy Nolan (James Brown)
13	Jeff Beck
14	Stevie Ray Vaughan
15	Pete Townshend
16	George Harrison
17	Robert Johnson
18	Charlie Christian
19	Guitar Slim
20	Johnny Ramone
21	Eddie Van Halen
22	Ry Cooder
23	Johnny Marr (The Smiths)
24	Hubert Sumlin (Howlin' Wolf)
25	Curtis Mayfield
26	James Burton
27	Elmore James
28	Frank Zappa
29	J Mascis (Dinosaur Jr)
30	Buddy Guy
31	Freddie King
32	The Edge
33	Prince
34	Tom Verlaine (Television)
35	Jerry Garcia (The Grateful Dead)
36	Sister Rosetta Tharpe
37	Eddie Cochran
38	Roger McGuinn
39	Duane Allman
40	Link Wray
41	Robbie Robertson
42	Bert Jansch
43	Chet Atkins
44	Hank Marvin
45	Robert Lockwood
46	Scotty Moore (Elvis's guitarist)
47	Elson Shamblin (Bob Wills, Texas Playboys)
48	Bo Diddley
49	Lowell George (Little Feat)
50	Ron Asheton (The Stooges)

Taxpayer foots £200,000 bill to solve a sticky problem

By Paul Wilkinson

AN ACADEMIC has been given a government grant of nearly £200,000 to find a better way of attaching soles to shoes. Extra cash from the shoe industry will bring the total funding for the three-year project to £270,000.

"It might seem mundane," Professor Paul Taylor of Hull University said, "but 75 million pairs of shoes are sold in this country each year, six billion in the top six countries worldwide. Soles falling off is a major source of complaint from the public."

Professor Taylor, 45, who has worked in the university's control and robotics department for 17 years, intends to design a computer-aided robot to carry out a task currently done by humans.

He said that anyone trying on shoes knew that they could vary in the same size and design. "At present only humans have the ability to match up exactly a shoe upper with a sole. Only a human can make the visual and physical judgment on how best to put them together."

Much of Britain's shoe production is highly mechanised, but the task of putting upper on sole has so far defeated technology.

"If as often happens it is impossible to make an exact fit, then the operator has to apply subjective criteria. Our project is to replace this with engineering criteria which will give the customer a better-made, higher-quality shoe," Professor Taylor said.

The government cash is coming from the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council, which hopes to develop the results for other industrial applications. The balance has been provided by British United Shoe Machinery, which supplies equipment to most shoe makers.

☐ Researchers at the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield have been given £50,000 by McNicholas Construction to study how contractors laying television cable can improve standards of work and reduce thousands of claims for damage against them.

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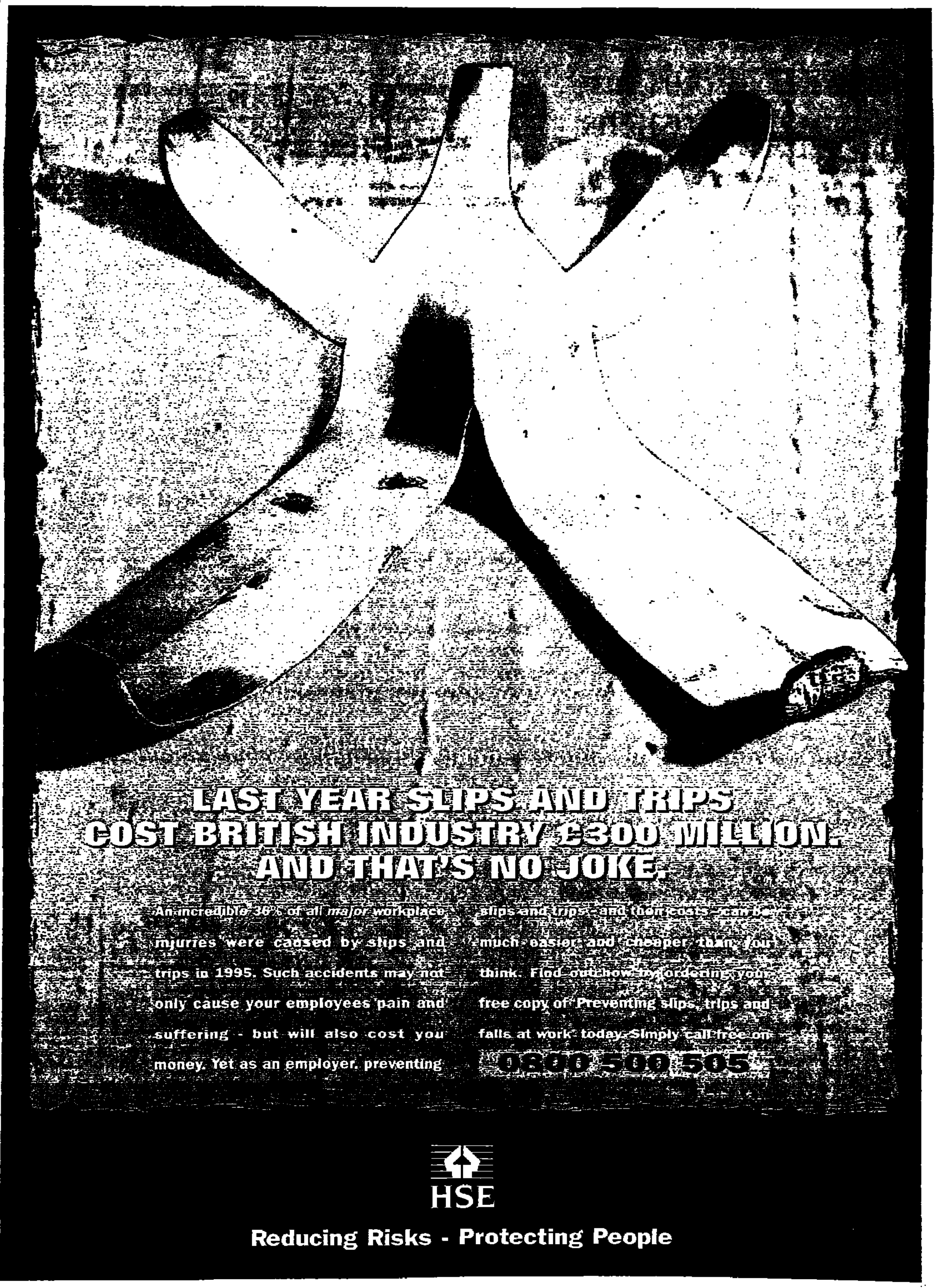

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HSE

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Britain launches campaign to block Union's decisions

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

BRITAIN launched its blocking campaign in Brussels yesterday with an announcement to its partners to expect disruption until it won satisfaction on beef. National officials across the Continent and in the European Commission denounced the action, in terms ranging from pointless to blackmail.

While Europe was reacting to John Major's stark increase in hostilities in his battle for British beef, the Commission proclaimed business as usual and endorsed a new proposal for member states partly to lift the ban. Franz Fischler, the Agriculture Commissioner, was confident that the measure would pass. Even if it fails to gain the requisite majority at an agriculture ministers' meeting on June 3, it is likely to be enacted by the Commission alone under the terms of the European Union treaty.

Stephen Wall, the British Ambassador to the Union, told a session of the intergovernmental conference, the Maastricht treaty review, that he could no longer put Britain's signature to the minutes of their meetings. It fell to David Bostock, his deputy, to announce to a regular diplomatic council that "pending a resolution ... the UK's ability to contribute to EU business is bound to be impaired".

Britain is continuing to take part in negotiations at all levels of EU business, but it intends to register formally its reservations on proposals being put forward for decision at ministerial level. It would then be able to block final decisions due to be taken on the basis of unanimity.

The first casualty was a European convention for dealing with bankruptcies, already approved by the other 14 states. Britain had been expected to endorse it after failing to sign it for several months. The next move will come today at a ministerial-level meeting where Britain will refuse to agree a joint action programme on civil protection in disasters. The impact will be limited, however, since Britain had been expected to block the action in any event.

Britain's existing position as the main source of obstruction to EU decisions limited the impact of an offensive that is, on the face of it, more sweeping than any applied since France boycotted the business of the Common Market in 1965. Commission officials and EU diplomats noted that the Union was unlikely in the early stages to notice much difference now that the Prime Minister had decided to withold "Britain's goodwill".

TACTICS

"We are not impressed. It won't make a difference," said a senior Commission official involved in the single-market preparations. "We all know it is for home consumption."

Most acknowledged, however, that a long campaign would lead to heavy disruption — not least, at the EU summit in Florence on June 21 which could be effectively hijacked by the British crisis. Some diplomats acknowledged that Mr Major's action could force governments to speed up moves to end the beef ban, but at a cost of destroying what remaining goodwill Britain still enjoys in the Union.

Much of the impact of the British campaign depends on the intensity of the guerrilla war against the Euro-machine. A full-scale work-to-rule could, for example, quickly jam the decision-making machinery even in areas where issues are decided by the majority rather than unanimously. Most vulnerable would be the practice by which EU ambassadors agree that ministers will nod through uncontroversial decisions. Unanimous agreement is needed to determine these items, known in the jargon as "A-points". Subjecting each to full debate and voting would choke the ministerial councils.

British officials were uncertain yesterday of the level of resistance they were to apply, but there was no question of leaving an empty chair. One diplomat explained the reason with the French adage: "Les absents ont toujours tort" (The absent are always wrong).

Mr Wall, the British Ambassador, is due today to attend a regular session of Coreper, the ambassadors' decision-making committee. Among the items on which he may place Britain's reserve are decisions on implementing an accord with the United Arab Emirates and on "the conclusion of administrative arrangements on trade in textile products" between the EU and other countries.

Leading article and Letters, page 21

Loyal lieutenant in Brussels firing line

BY CHARLES BREMNER

Stephen Wall, Britain's man on the front line in the beef war, is a confidant of John Major and widely seen as a Euro-sceptic

WHILE the generals in Britain's European beef war fire off their orders from the safety of London, the frontline task of enforcing them falls to a slim, 49-year-old diplomat with a quiet style that masks a sharp negotiating bite.

The self-effacing manner of Stephen Wall, the British ambassador to the European Union and confidant of John Major, is the hallmark of a man who has won respect among his colleagues on the powerful Brussels council that runs the member states' decision-making machine.

"He's as sharp as a razor and on top of every dossier," said a French official close to the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the club-like body of 15 ambassadors whose weekly meetings clear the way for government agreements. The practice in which many committee deals are later nodded through by ministers means the British ambassador has, in effect, the power to make British law.

Praise for his professional style is tempered by frustration among many continental officials over his role as the front man in what they see as the Government's long campaign of obstruction.

Mr Wall, who is also Britain's representative at the inter-governmental conference, the negotiations to revamp the Maastricht treaty, was Mr Major's expected choice to succeed Sir John Kerr in the politically sensitive post of UK Permanent Representative when he was made Washington ambassador last summer.

Mr Wall joined the Diplomatic Service in 1968 and has not only served as Private Secretary to four Foreign Secretaries, but has worked as Mr Major's Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Defence in the early 1990s. Between Downing Street and Brussels, he served for two years in Lisbon as one of Britain's youngest ambassadors.

His close relationship with Mr Major inevitably labelled him with a reputation in Brussels and within sections of the Foreign Office as a Euro-sceptic.

Though never confirmed, it is widely thought he had a big input in an article in 1993 in which the Prime Minister proclaimed Euro-sceptic colours, saying the project for economic and monetary union had "the quaintness of a rain dance and about the same potency" and branded as folly the Maastricht timetable for launching EMU.

MAN IN THE NEWS

Mr Wall was in close touch with Downing Street before Tuesday's Commons announcement, but colleagues would give nothing away on his advice to the Prime Minister. A conscientious civil servant, Mr Wall gives little away of his views, though he is refreshingly direct and lacks the formality of the old-style Britannic envoy.

The only blemish to an impeccable career was an implicit rebuke from Lord Justice Scott in his report on the arms-to-Iraq affair. Admitting the one error, he said he "did not act dishonourably".

Major is 'playing reckless game'

BY ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

PADDY ASHDOWN yesterday accused John Major of "breathtaking irresponsibility" over the beef crisis.

The Liberal Democrat leader said Mr Major was playing a reckless game with farmers' lives just to pander to his Euro-sceptic backbenchers.

Leading the British criticism of Mr Major's brinkmanship with Europe, he said: "This is an act of reckless desperation typical of the Prime Minister."

Mr Ashdown said he had been told by European counterparts that the gelatine, tallow and semen ban was going to be lifted anyway and that Mr Major's "pathetic" move would probably be the only blocking point.

ASHDOWN

"The farmers are horrified by Mr Major's short-term moves," Mr Ashdown said. "What they need is help over the culling programme and co-operation with Europe. "The derivitive ban is only worth £35 million; the rest of British beef is worth over £500 million. That is what we must concentrate on."

He called on Mr Major to resign if the full ban had not been lifted by June.

Court case threatens consumer confidence

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A GROUP of abattoir owners and cattle farmers is today starting legal action that could wreck the Government's strategy for restoring consumer confidence in beef.

Lawyers for the Quality Meat and Livestock Alliance will seek leave in the High Court to apply for a judicial review of the ban on the sale for food of cattle over 30 months old. They will argue that the ban is illegal.

"We are seeking an expedited proceeding because of the urgency of the case," Richard North, a food safety consultant who is advising the group, said.

LEGAL ACTION

If the legal challenge succeeds, it will be devastating. Retailers have been rebuilding sales of beef by guaranteeing that it now comes only from animals under 30 months old. Members of the alliance are furious because the cull of cattle over 30 months old includes not only barren dairy cows at the end of their useful working lives but tens of thousands of prime beef cattle, even though only 15 per cent of beef herds have ever had a case of BSE.

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Kohl seeks compromise amid trade war fears and cries of 'blackmail'

From Roger Boyes in Bonn

THE head of Germany's powerful farmers' association, Constantin von Heereman, yesterday described as scandalous John Major's threat to block progress in Europe. "Instead of properly combating BSE at home, the British Government is resorting to political pressure, not to say blackmail, to relax the export ban," he said.

Herr von Heereman's outburst was not entirely typical of the German response to the new crisis in relations between Britain and the rest of the European Union. Bonn was in fact betraying signs of nervousness about possible British obstruction of EU business. "We cannot afford this blockade: there must be room for an acceptable compromise," one official said.

The chief cause for concern was the future of Europol, Helmut Kohl's cherished project to set up a European police intelligence network. Britain had objected to what it regarded as the exaggerated role of the European Court of Justice in arbitrating disputes within Europol which functions in The Hague as a drugs unit. Recently there were signs that Britain would give ground, allowing Europol to have its own legal convention and expand its activities. But hopes seem to have been scuttled by the dispute over the ban on British beef imports.

Kinkel: ready to offer future concessions

The German press — even the usually strident *Bild* — was reluctant to to take on the British media, parts of which appeared to be on a war footing. While *The Sun* demanded a boycott of German beer and German pornography, most German newspapers called for limited concessions. "The European Union has manoeuvred itself into a dilemma," the liberal *Süddeutsche Zeitung* wrote. "The worst thing that could happen now is a trade war between Britain and the rest of the European Union. The issue is no longer merely protection of consumers. Many experts doubt that the tough line on beef byproducts is justified. The Union will have to make an acceptable offer to Britain, even if it has only symbolic value."

GERMANY

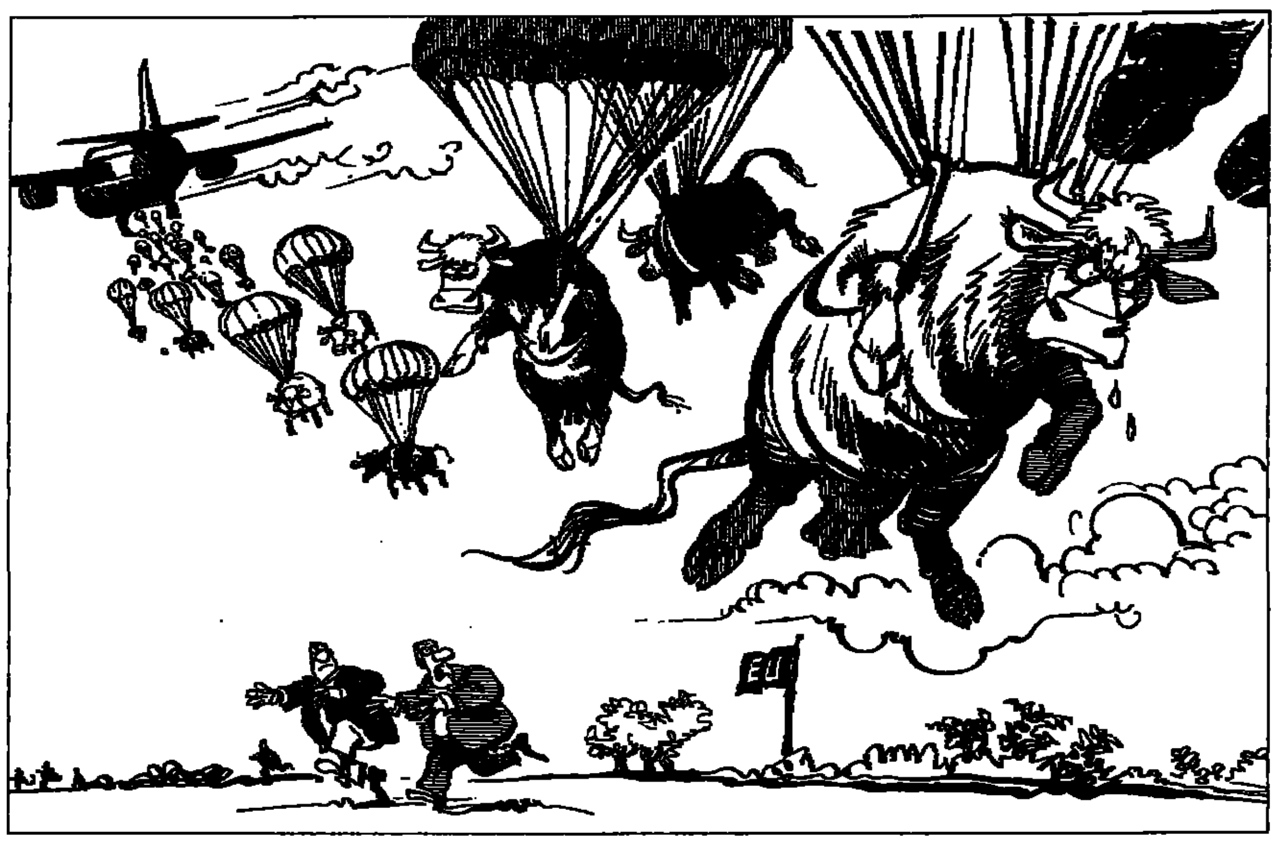
The influential Bonn *General Anzeiger* issued a warning that, if "a joint solution is not found soon, Britain will eventually be driven out of the European house". The *Westdeutsche Allgemeine* called for steady nerves. "Let us hope that European governments will keep cool in the face of British threats. There is no reason to become infected by British tempers, any more than there is reason to yield to blackmail."

There is no real concern that the British blockade will in some way undermine the inter-governmental conference (IGC). Britain is isolated on most issues of European institutional reform and Germany has made clear that the IGC cannot be completed until after the British general election. "The one good bit of news from Britain this morning," said a tired official, "is a suggestion that this mad cow row maybe a prelude to a summer election."

The German Government is still coming under domestic pressure to stand firm on BSE controls. However, Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, has kept open the possibility of future concessions to Britain.

The Cologne *Stadt-Anzeiger* certainly expressed the view of part of the Government when it declared: "Compromises are often necessary, but this time consistency is called for. British Euro-sceptics have now taken such a fundamentalist line that even concessions will not soothe them."

Herds with British cattle are being kept under tight scrutiny — one herd of 104 cattle has been slaughtered because of a sick cow — German butchers are going bankrupt, slaughterhouses are reporting huge losses, and Bavarian beef farmers alone are losing £7 million a month. There is thus a priority, outlined again last night by Agriculture Ministry officials, to restore German confidence in German beef.



"I always knew that the British would fight back" — Horst Haitzinger's view of events in the *t z* daily newspaper

Blair presses Prodi to get ban lifted

From Richard Owen in Rome

TONY BLAIR will today seek to persuade Italy, the current holder of the European Union presidency, to intervene with the European Commission to lift the ban on British beef and defuse the "increasingly poisonous" relationship between Britain and Europe.

But Lamberto Dini, the new Foreign Minister, accused Britain of using "blackmail", while Italian diplomats issued a warning that the EU summit in Florence in a month's time could be seriously disrupted, setting back the timetable for a single currency.

ITALY

Mr Blair, regarded in Rome as the British Prime Minister in waiting, flies here today to hold talks with Romano Prodi, the economics professor whose Centre-Left alliance won last month's elections. In interviews with the Italian press yesterday, Mr Blair said Italy's new left-wing Government and New Labour had "common challenges" and should use their natural affinity to resolve European issues.

Yesterday Signor Prodi, who will chair the Florence meeting marking the end of Italy's six-month presidency, outlined his programme to parliament at the start of a confidence debate. He put economic and monetary union and Italy's budget deficit reduction at the top of the agenda, alongside devolution of power to the regions to head off northern separatists, the fight against the Mafia, privatisation and job creation.

But *Corriere della Sera* said Mr Blair shared John Major's inability to grasp continental mistrust of Britain over "mad cow" disease. Mr Blair told *La Repubblica* that, although the Conservative Government had made "mistakes", there were no longer scientific reasons for keeping the embargo on British beef in force. "The problem is one of reassuring European public opinion, and explaining to Europeans that eating beef is not a health hazard," Mr Blair was quoted as saying.

But Signor Dini said that Mr Major was using "strong-arm tactics and blackmail" which could not resolve the issue. Signor Dini, who as interim Prime Minister presided over March's Turin summit launching the Maastricht review process only to watch it being hijacked by BSE, said the mad cow dispute was a "mine which must be defused fast".

He did not believe Mr Major would carry out his threat to disrupt EU business through "non-co-operation", and Italy was using its "excellent relations" with Britain to find a compromise before the Florence meeting.

Fruit farms fear they will feel retaliation

From Tunku Varadarajan in Madrid

THE Spanish daily newspaper *ABC* yesterday attributed John Major's tough line on the beef embargo to pressure from the Euro-sceptic wing of the Conservative Party, as well as from "an incandescent press". The newspaper said that Mr Major would "torpedo" all future European Union decision-making if London's demands were not met swiftly.

El Mundo, for its part, gave prominence to the views of Loyola de Palacio, the Spanish Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. She said Spain could not accept a free circulation of British beef and bovine derivatives "until the United Kingdom presents an authentic eradication plan".

SPAIN

The paper reported that Spain could now find itself on Britain's "blacklist", and that an angry Mr Major might now block community business "that is in Spain's interest, in the fruit and vegetable sector".

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Spanish border checks tightened

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

SPAIN has responded to the conciliatory new Government in Gibraltar by imposing even greater obstacles on travellers wishing to cross its border with the British colony.

Angry drivers report that the Spanish authorities have resorted to deliberate delays. The "double filter", by which cars entering and leaving Spain are checked twice and which the British Government has often described as "unacceptable", has been applied recently with exceptional rigour.

Vehicles leaving Gibraltar, in particular, have had to wait for up to two and a half hours at the border as Spanish immigration has reduced the flow of cars to eight to ten an hour. Weary Gibraltarians fear the authorities will soon revert to turning cars back if, for example, drivers did not have such things as fire-extinguishers, rubber gloves and spare pairs of spectacles.

The frontier queue information hotline, a public telephone service which provides Gibraltarians with an estimated waiting time at the border, has been inundated with calls.

Some Spanish politicians have, however, come out publicly in favour of easier border clearance. César Braña, the caretaker Civil Governor of Cádiz and the man who devised the "double filter", has suggested that the checks be discontinued, arguing that Peter Caruana, the colony's new Chief Minister, "appears to be sincere about dialogue".

José Antonio Fernández Pons, the Mayor of the impoverished border town of La Linea, a number of whose citizens rely on employment in Gibraltar, has also attacked the measures. According to the *Gibraltar Chronicle*, Señor Fernández Pons said that Spain should find "measures to improve relations at a human and economic level".

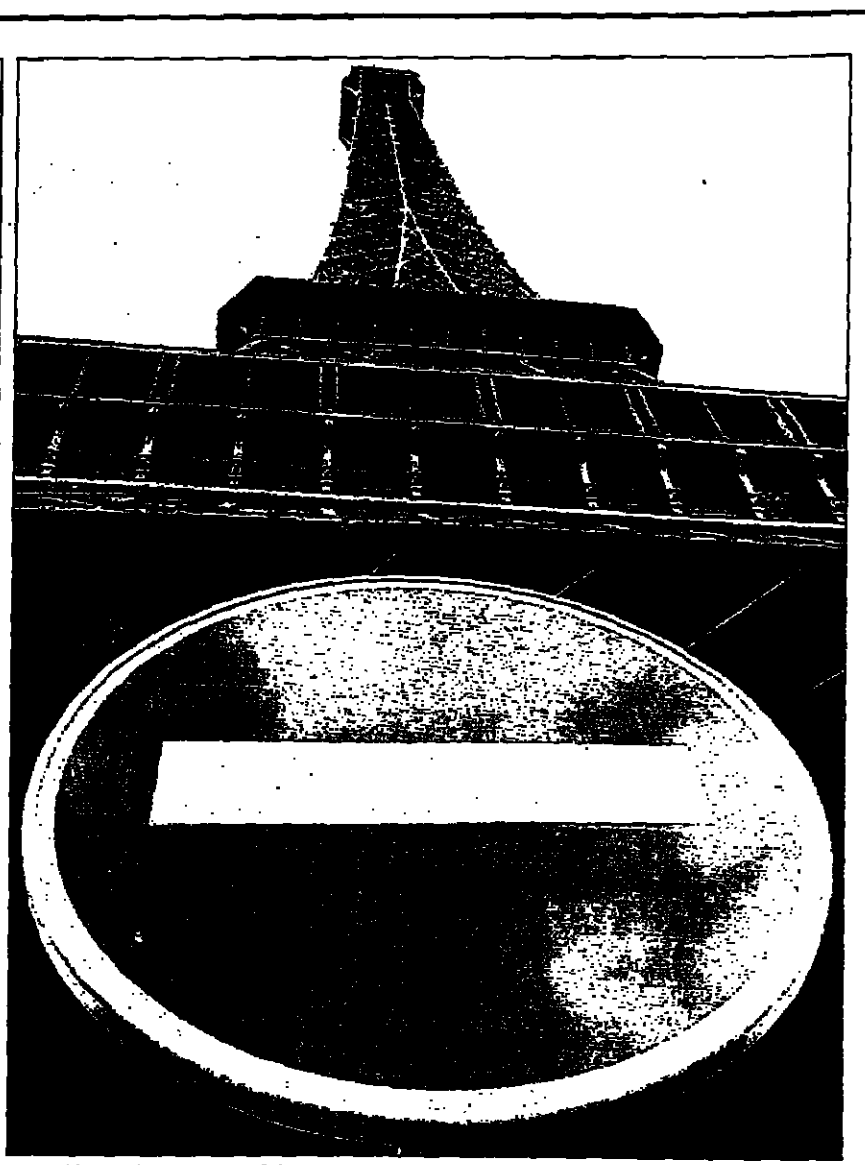
These measures appear not to be forthcoming from the Spanish Foreign Ministry, however. In an interview with ABC on Saturday, Abel Matutes, the Spanish Foreign Minister, repeated what is becoming his habitual position: "If the situation demands it, I will not hesitate for a moment to propose a closure of the gate to Gibraltar."

His statement, made a day after Mr Caruana's election, has been received with dismay in Gibraltar. Voters there gave their mandate to a new Government in the belief that tensions with Spain would soon be eased.

Man held over Briton's murder

Gibraltar: A 19-year-old Spaniard has been charged with the murder of Private Duane Gary Lockwood, 26, of the Royal Anglian Regiment, who died last Thursday (Dominique Searle writes). He he was struck by a bottle in the Kiss disco in Gibraltar on May 11.

Daniel Ortero Arguez, from La Linea, was remanded in custody by the Gibraltar magistrates' court yesterday.



Strikers shut the Eiffel Tower for the third day in succession yesterday

French gear up for summer of protest

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

AFTER a bitter winter of discontent and an uneasy springtime truce, France is steeling itself for a summer of industrial unrest as civil servants and public-sector workers threaten another round of strikes, stoppages and demonstrations.

The protests begin today with a "day of action" and marches by white-collar unions to demand reduced working hours.

Last week, as the French parliament began debating budget cuts for next year estimated at Fr60 billion (£8 billion), Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, said the Civil Service, which employs more than two million people, needed to shed "layers of excess fat".

UNSA, the public-sector union with 400,000 members, accused the Government of "organising the destruction of the public services" and called for a national demonstration on Wednesday when unions representing the teachers and police will march once again through the streets of Paris.

As with last winter, public-sector anger over threatened Civil Service cuts has merged with other issues: unions have already called for a 24-hour strike on June 4 in opposition to plans for the partial privatisation of France Telecom, and gas and electricity unions, fearing deregulation of the energy industry, are planning another one-day strike on June 5.

The communist-led CGT union has also called for mass rallies and protest marches on June 6 when railway workers, who spearheaded last winter's crippling 24-day transport strike, will march from the Gare Saint-Lazare to parliament.

The Government is reportedly planning to phase out at least 30,000 Civil Service jobs over the next four years as part of a drive to cut the public-sector deficit to 3 per cent of gross domestic product, in line with the Maastricht treaty criteria for a single European currency.

Public-sector unions remain deeply volatile after last winter's partially successful campaign to scupper M Juppé's overhaul of the welfare system, and any attempt to scale back the Civil Service or its perks will meet vigorous resistance.

A sign of the increasingly aggressive union mood may be seen in the continuing three-day strike at the Eiffel Tower, usually visited by 15,000 people a day. Employees are enraged that they are being ousted from a car park directly beneath the landmark to another which is 150 yards away. The dispute at the most popular tourists venue in France is costing about £79,000 a day in lost revenue.

Chefs give foreign food fads a roasting

Paris: More than a dozen of France's top chefs have drawn a line in the *crême brulée* with a blistering attack on the fiddly, facile, flavourless and foreign cuisine they claim is swamping traditional French cooking (Ben Macintyre writes).

The chefs, led by Joel Robuchon and Alain Ducasse, the acknowledged stars of the French culinary firmament, issued a statement condemning the trend: "We are appalled at the tendency to mix everything with anything on a plate in the effort to give the illusion of innovation at any price," they said.

The Gallic old guard is particularly galled by "fusion food" — concoctions such as "Saucisson Lyonnais with Polenta", "Tex-Mex Française" and "Foie Gras Sushi".

Calling on the French authorities and the younger generation of chefs to take note, the chefs proclaimed: "A great dish is a testamant to simplicity and harmony of flavours. A great dish draws from its sources and the inspiration of our collective memory. By forgetting these simple values, as is too often the case today, we are going to lose both our identity and our cuisine."

Lebanese exile is silenced in France

BY BEN MACINTYRE

FRANCE was left defending its image as a haven for political exiles yesterday after the home of Michel Aoun, the former Lebanese Prime Minister, was surrounded by paramilitary police to prevent him from giving a lecture at the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

General Aoun, who was forced into exile in France in 1990 after his forces were defeated by the Syrian Army, said the armed "jailers" around his home had made him "the only political prisoner in France".

His lawyer has filed a suit claiming infringement of General Aoun's personal liberty by arbitrary confinement and accusing France of violating the European Convention on Human Rights.

Officials in Strasbourg said the French action was contrary to the European Parliament's extraterritorial status, while even the conservative *Le Figaro*, usually supportive of the Government, wondered at the legality of preventing General Aoun from leaving his home 30 miles east of Paris when, "in strictly legal terms, he enjoys the same prerogatives as a French citizen".

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Historian reveals Swiss plan for nuclear deterrent

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SWITZERLAND, famed for its armed neutrality, considered building a nuclear bomb and had a secret stockpile of uranium, according to an official report by a Swiss government military historian.

Although the putative nuclear weapons programme never went ahead, there was a government debate on whether to have a nuclear deterrent and the option remained open until 1988 when a special federal commission, charged with maintaining the technical and scientific capability to build a bomb, was finally deactivated.

For a country which has the biggest army per head of population in Europe (450,000 on mobilisation) and a huge network of nuclear fallout shelters to protect every Swiss citizen from a ballistic missile attack, this secret plan was the ultimate answer to Switzerland's historic obsession with guarding its territory.

Last night Philippe Tissières, the spokesman for the Swiss Foreign Ministry in Berne, confirmed that there had been a 20-year programme when Switzerland was in a position to build its own nuclear bomb. The federal commission was set up in 1969.

Details of the Swiss nuclear plans, which appear in the *New Scientist* magazine this week, were drawn up by Jürg Stussi-Lauterburg, a military historian. He was given access to government documents on the secret programme and has just produced his report.

The historian disclosed that until 1981 the Swiss kept a store of uranium for potential military purposes at Wimmis, 20 miles southeast of Berne. He said the Swiss Government favoured using uranium to make nuclear bombs and discussed building a centrifuge plant to enrich the ore to weapons-grade material. In 1969, Switzerland tried unsuccessfully to acquire 3kg of weapons-grade plutonium from Norway.

In 1963, defence advisers estimated the cost of producing a uranium nuclear bomb would be SwFr720 million (£400 million at today's rate). A plutonium bomb was estimated to cost at SwFr2 billion. In 1968, an internal defence committee reported that it would cost between SwFr100 million and SwFr175 million a year over 15 years to develop and produce 400 uranium warheads for aircraft, artillery and guided missile systems.

Mr Stussi-Lauterburg said: "In an anarchic world we were prepared. If Germany developed nuclear weapons, then we would have built one to keep ourselves alive."

Mr Tissières said that Switzerland did not breach the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which it signed in 1969 because the materials for a nuclear bomb, such as the uraniuum ore, had been acquired in the 1950s, before the document was signed. The treaty was not breached after 1969 because Switzerland never built a bomb, although it had the capability for years.

Helmut Kohl and President Mandela in Bonn yesterday where the South African leader addressed a packed German parliament, appealing for aid to help reform his country's economy

Gourmet summit for Kohl and Clinton

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, meet in Wisconsin today for what the White House calls a summit but others are dubbing the "Nosh of the Century".

Two of the world's most prominent trenchermen will eat together in one of Milwaukee's many fine German restaurants, but as Mike McCurry, Mr Clinton's press secretary, jokingly conceded: "It's not clear whether the working agenda for lunch will include items other than the menu."

A similar encounter in 1994 between the 15-stone American and the 21-stone German, whom Mr Clinton once likened to a sumo wrestler, has entered Washington folklore. They went to Filomena's, a Georgetown restaurant known for its giant portions, and heroically ate their way through hot and cold antipasti, fried calamari, a Tuscan soup with white beans, ravioli stuffed with veal, cheese and spinach, and generous portions of that coronary calamity, zabaglione, with mixed berries.

They then took away two large chocolate cakes with which one likes to imagine they rounded off their "pasta diplomacy" behind their limousine's tinted glass.

The president invited Herr Kohl to Milwaukee because Wisconsin has a huge German-American population and Mr Clinton badly needs to win the state in November's presidential election. Advance teams of American and German officials visited the city to sample possible restaurants, but their choice remained a closely guarded secret yesterday. "For the hearty appetite a 90-year-old favourite on our menu is a roast pork shank," said Victor Mader, who has made a strong pitch for his restaurant. "It weighs in at about 2½lb. They might want to accompany that with potato dumplings and quaff it down with one of our 49 German beers … We're talking calories. This is for the gluttons among us."

Between mouthfuls the two men will discuss several weightier matters including Europe's objection to American legislation that would impose sanctions on foreign firms and executives who trade with Iran, Libya and Cuba. Germany does considerable business with Iran and believes it has helped moderate Tehran's conduct, but Washington believes the world's leading exporter of terrorism should be treated as a pariah. It is good election-year politics for Mr Clinton and he is not expected to relent.

Mr Clinton and Herr Kohl will discuss what to do if stability has not been established in Bosnia by the time the mandate of the US-led international peacekeeping force expires in December. The two leaders will also discuss next month's Russian presidential election and what to do if the communists oust President Yeltsin. Such an outcome would have a direct bearing on the other main item on their agenda, the eastward expansion of Nato for which Germany has been pressing hard.

Liz Taylor in alimony row

New York: Separated life is not suiting Liz Taylor's latest estranged husband, who says he is struggling to make ends meet on "bare expenses" of $5,000 (£3,300) a month (writes Quentin Letts).

Larry Fortensky, a former building site worker, has started legal action to try to secure more money from the actress. He asked a court to overrule a prenuptial agreement that waived all "spousal support" in the event of the marriage breaking down.

He was Miss Taylor's seventh husband and although the union lasted five years, in February the actress demanded a divorce. He left the marital mansion in Bel Air and now occupies a more humble billet in Los Angeles.

Mr Fortensky, who is about 20 years younger than the 63-year-old actress, met her at the Betty Ford Clinic.

Madrid airport staff balk at monkey meat for diners

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

SOME Spanish baggage handlers have refused to deal with luggage on flights from Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea, after the discovery of rotting monkey meat in a suitcase.

There have been several reports of monkey meat entering the country in this way from Africa. It is said to arrive every Sunday at Madrid's Barajas airport on the weekly flight from Equatorial Guinea, Spain's former Central African colony, destined for the kitchens of Madrid's sizeable Guinean immigrant community, for whom the ape-flesh is a prized delicacy.

The problem came to light when pieces of monkey — the feet, the rump and the head — were discovered in a suitcase which had been checked in as part of the Guinean Embassy's "diplomatic bag". Baggage handlers in Madrid found themselves assaulted by a stench from the suitcase and were alarmed by what appeared to be bloodstains on the cloth cover, and alerted police and customs officials. The case and the rotting monkey meat were later incinerated.

Iberia, the Spanish airline, has now issued baggage handlers with protective gloves and masks. "I am sure a few monkeys arrive every time a plane lands from Guinea," one baggage-handler said. "But we can't really check each and every suitcase on each and every flight." The meat, much prized by Guineans, is used in spiced stews and for grills.

Spanish law appears not to prohibit the consumption of monkey meat, but the country has strict sanitation regulations which require certification of animal products before their importation.

Spanish customs sources say that there is no certification process of any sort at Malabo airport, and that most of the shipments are made by individuals who pay no regard to customs regulations. There is a variety of monkey life in Equatorial Guinea, none of which is regarded as unfit for human consumption.

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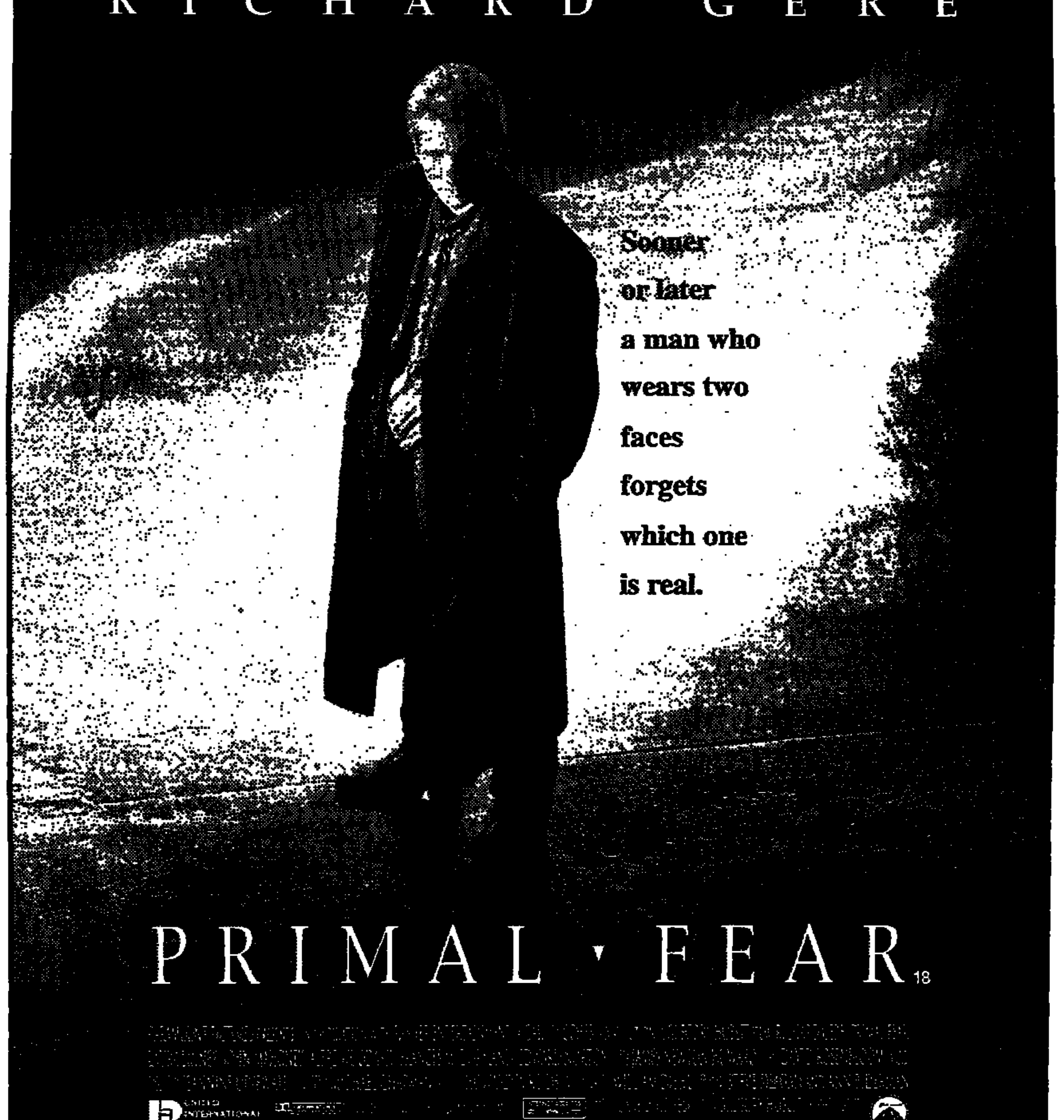

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Clinton under fire for attempt to postpone sex case

From Ian Brodie in Washington

REPUBLICANS yesterday accused President Clinton, who dodged wearing a military uniform during the Vietnam War, of trying to delay a sexual harassment lawsuit by suggesting that as Commander-in-Chief of the US Armed Forces he had the same rights as a soldier on active duty.

Expressing astonishment, two Republican committee chairmen were collecting signatures from others in Congress for a sharply worded letter urging Mr Clinton to withdraw "this ignoble suggestion that you are somehow a person in military service".

But Mr Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, said the criticism was a partisan effort to distort an argument in the President's petition to the US Supreme Court seeking to delay the contested suit until after he leaves office. The plaintiff, Paula Jones, alleges that while Mr Clinton was Governor of Arkansas she went to his hotel suite where he exposed himself and asked her to perform a sexual act.

One of several examples advanced by Mr Bennett to give the President temporary immunity cited the Soldiers' and Sailors' Relief Act of 1940. That grants automatic delays in civil litigation brought against military personnel until their active duty is over.

The petition said: "President Clinton here thus seeks relief similar to that which he may be entitled as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and which is routinely available to service members under his command."

In a statement issued by his Washington office, Mr Bennett said while the 1940 Act might extend to Presidents as Commander-in-Chief "we have not relied on it in this case".

The two Republican congressmen, Bob Stump, chairman of the Committee for Veterans' Affairs, and Robert Dornan, chairman of the Committee on Military Personnel insisted Mr Clinton was not eligible for any relief under the Act. They said the Act granted delays only to members of the Armed Forces and the US Constitution ensured the Commander-in-Chief was always a civilian.

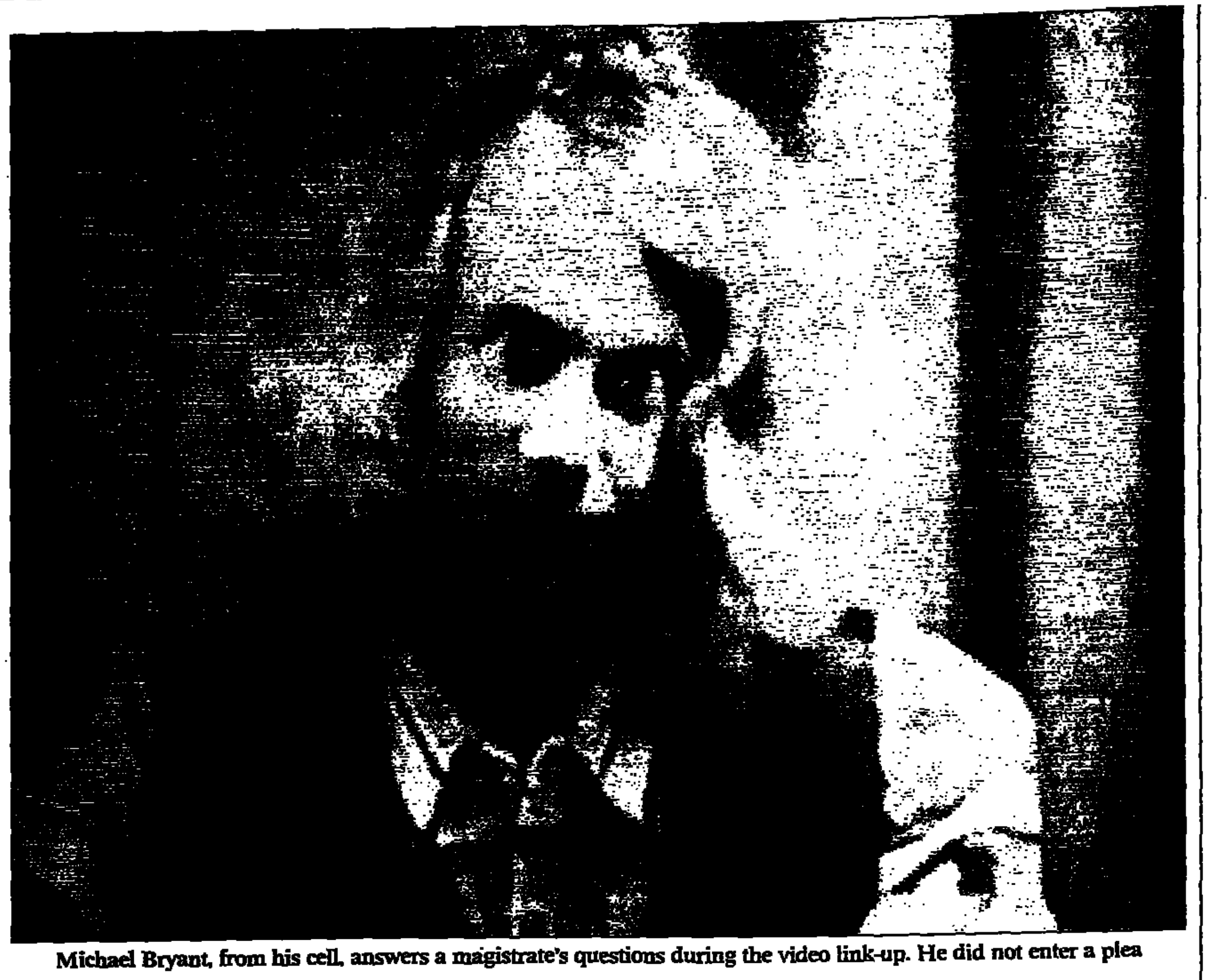
Jones: accuses Clinton of sexual harassment

Clearly seeking further to embarrass Mr Clinton over the case, the chairmen wrote in their draft letter to him: "You are *not* a person in military service, nor have you ever been." Mr Stump said that by claiming possible protection under the 1940 Act, Mr Clinton was making a mockery of laws meant to help men and women serving their country in the military. It was a slap in the face to the millions who had served.

J. Thomas Burch, the National Vietnam Veterans Coalition chairman, said: "Bill Clinton was not prepared to carry the sword for his country, but has no hesitancy in using its shield if he can get away with it."

☐ **Fighting talk:** The President joined battle with Bob Dole yesterday on what is fast becoming a central election issue — whether America should begin building a national missile defence system (Martin Fletcher writes).

Mr Clinton rejected his Republican challenger's charges that he was neglecting American security by delaying a decision until 2000, accusing the Republicans of wanting to spend huge sums now on a system that could be obselete before any hostile Third World nation acquired intercontinental ballistic missiles.



Michael Bryant, from his cell, answers a magistrate's questions during the video link-up. He did not enter a plea

Tasmania video court remands gunman

From Roger Maynard in Sydney

SECURITY fears prevented Michael Bryant, the Australian mass killer, making his first formal court appearance in person yesterday.

Instead Bryant, 28, the loner who killed 35 people, appeared by video link from his Tasmanian prison cell. Looking downcast and dishevelled, he was pictured on a television monitor during the 90-second hearing at Hobart magistrates' court which received a bomb threat minutes before.

Dressed in a brown suede jacket and cream-striped shirt, he sat in a wheelchair in front of a camera installed in the hospital wing of Tasmania's top-security Risdon jail.

His thick fair hair combed to the right, his eyes darted sideways on several occasions. The few members of the public who were allowed into the court described him as vague and confused.

Bryant, who was arrested after going berserk with a semi-automatic weapon at the Port Arthur historic settlement in southern Tasmania three weeks ago, faced one charge of murdering Kate Scott, of West Australia. He did not enter a plea and spoke only a few words. Asked by Michael Hill, the magistrate, if his name was Martin Bryant, he replied: "Yes, yes I am."

Questioned again about whether he understood the procedure, he said in a softly spoken voice: "Yes, yes I do."

Bryant, who was remanded in custody until June 18, was wheeled back to his cell in the prison hospital, where he is kept apart from other inmates and has an adjoining cage for exercise purposes.

From rhymes to riches, President's favourite poet earns $4.3 m in a year

From Quentin Letts in New York

POVERTY, racial injustice and womanly toil have paid off handsomely for Maya Angelou, the poet. Last year she earned $4.3 million (£2.8 million), making her arguably the best-paid versifier ever.

Ms Angelou, a former brothel keeper and tram conductor, is a champion of the oppressed and President Clinton's favourite poet. She composed a verse for his inauguration in 1993, and the Clinton years, in turn, have been good to her. According to *Forbes*, the financial magazine, last year Ms Angelou pulled in some $2 million from speaking engagements alone. The rest of her income came from book royalties, media deals, film appearances and scholastic stipends. She employed three administrative staffers, other temporary workers and an array of professional advisers.

David La Camera, her agent, compared her to "the chief executive officer of a major corporation".

Her best-known work, *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*, is required reading at many American schools and slim volumes of Angelou poetry can often be seen sticking out of the handbags of earnest young women. Her Clinton connection has ensured Ms Angelou a seat at some of the best tables in Washington DC, and she accompanied Vice-President Al Gore to the swearing-in of South Africa's President Mandela.

Her wealth sits uncomfortably alongside a line from her 1975 poem, *Alone*, in which she spoke of millionaires needing medical treatment to cure "hearts of stone". But she said that when she was young, "I thought success meant having an attaché case and a pair of shoes and bags that matched".

Samuel Hazo, founder of the International Poetry Forum and the state poet of Pennsylvania, yesterday expressed astonishment at her earnings. "I cannot think of any poet who has ever made such money," he said. "Maya Angelou has a wonderful sense of presence but I do not think highly of her as a poet." He called her work "heightened rhetoric" and "plain prose overcoated with what Wordsworth would have called emotion ... with every ethnic *i* dotted and *t* crossed, not imagined, but arranged".

The official poet laureate of the United States is Robert Hass, who is paid $35,000 a year. Britain's poet laureate, Ted Hughes, receives an annual case of claret, worth £27.

Angelou: sense of presence

She stands
before the abortion clinic
confounded by the lack of choices.
In the Welfare line,
reduced to the pity of handouts.
Ordained in the pulpit, shielded
by the mysteries.
In the operating room,
husbanding life.
In the choir loft,
holding God in her throat.
On lonely street corners,
hawking her body.
In the classroom, loving the
children to understanding.

From *Our Grandmothers*, published in *I Shall Not Be Moved* (Bantam, $10.23)

WORLD SUMMARY

Generals accused of sedition

Dhaka: Bangladesh's army chiefs, placed under house arrest at barracks here yesterday, faced charges of sedition as the civilian caretaker Government consolidated its grip on the military establishment (Ahmed Fazl writes).

After dismissing Lieutenant-General Abu Saleh Mohammad Nasim and crushing mutinous garrisons, the authorities told a Western diplomatic mission that June's election was on schedule.

Captain among ferry survivors

Mwanza, Tanzania: Hospitals have received only 91 survivors so far from the capsized Tanzanian ferry *MV Bukoba*, including its captain, Rume Mwiru, 44, after Lake Victoria's worst disaster on Tuesday. Anguished crowds here still await news of relatives among the hundreds of passengers. *(Reuter)*

40 Russians die in Chechen battle

Moscow: At least 40 Russian soldiers were killed and scores injured in Chechenia after government forces attempted to storm the last rebel stronghold at Bamut, about 25 miles from the capital, Grozny (Richard Beeston writes). Russia has failed a dozen times to take the base this year.

India bus bomb kills at least 14

Delhi: In the second powerful blast in India in two days, a bomb killed at least 14 people and wounded 30 others on a bus near the town of Mahua, 90 miles from Jaipur in Rajasthan. On Tuesday 13 died and 38 were hurt in a market bomb here. *(Reuter)*

Drive-in havens

Bonn: Women-only parking places will become standard at all rest stops along the autobahn system, the German government decided, amid concern at increasing dangers for women travellers. *(AP)*

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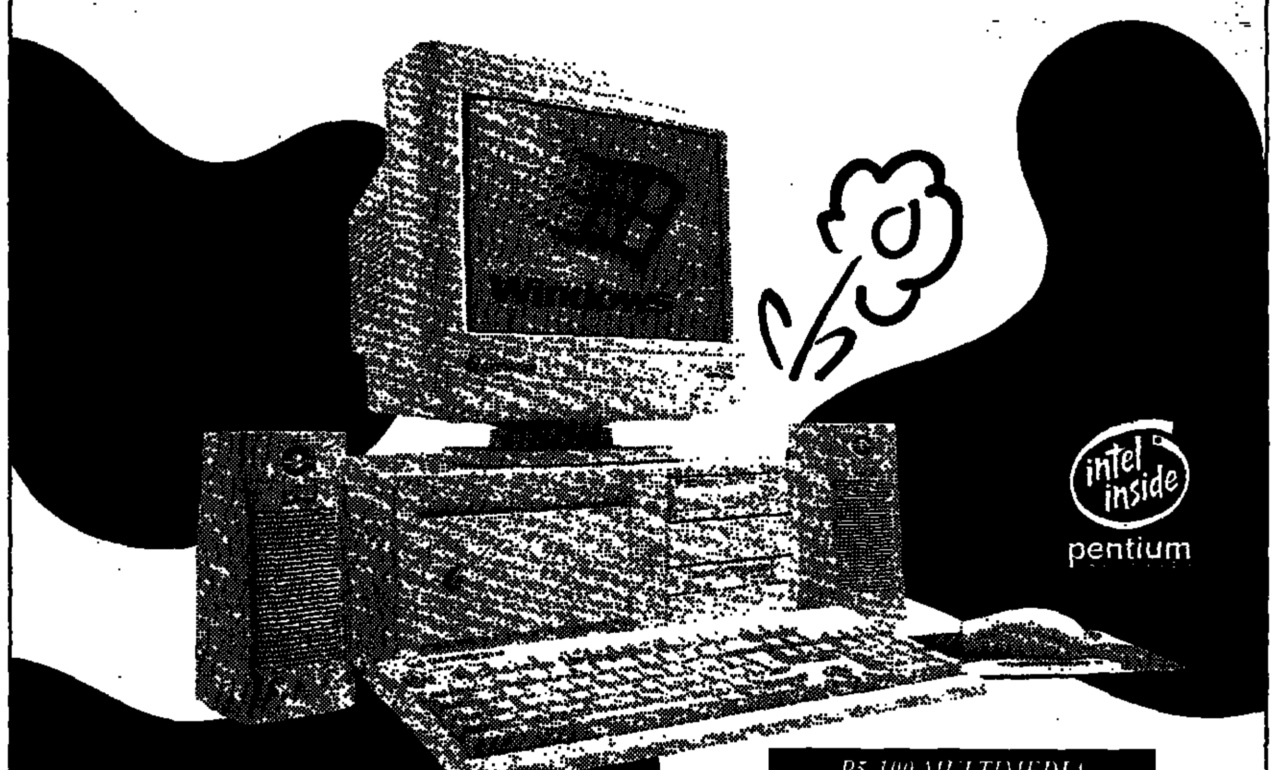

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هكذا من الأصل

Netanyahu claims lead as Labour gets sums wrong

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI ELECTION

WITH less than a week until polling, Israel's election was thrown wide open yesterday with the publication of a Labour Party document alleging that opinion polls showing Shimon Peres, the Labour Prime Minister, five points ahead of Binyamin Netanyahu, his right-wing rival, were inaccurate.

According to the secret research document published on the front page of Israel's leading independent daily, *Haaretz*, the true picture is closer, with Mr Netanyahu and Mr Peres running neck and neck. The paper said that the findings had been passed to Mr Peres, who is attempting to overcome the jinx of having lost four elections as party leader.

The politically explosive report prepared by Haim Assa, a strategy analyst, and two statistics professors, was ordered by leading members of Labour's campaign team. It claimed that internal party polls and public opinion polls published in the Hebrew press had overestimated Mr Peres's lead by failing to detect the tendencies of the large number of Israelis declaring themselves "undecided".

The leaking of the document coincided with claims by Mr Netanyahu, 46, that internal polls conducted by his opposition Likud Party showed him with a 1 per cent lead over Mr Peres, 72, the first time that the Likud leader has been ahead since early March in the aftermath of the four Islamic suicide bombs that killed more than 60 people.

The publication of the new claims has highlighted the uncertainty surrounding the outcome of the May 29 poll, which Western governments believe could be decisive for Middle East peace.

Israeli experts put the difficulty of predicting opinion accurately, even at this late stage, down to a number of factors, including genuine confusion among bomb-weary voters about the best way forward and the reluctance of many rightwingers openly to voice their support of Mr Netanyahu after last November's right-wing assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

"The best reading we can make from all this is that despite all the campaigning, there is still everything to play for," a Tel Aviv-based diplomat said. "Everything could depend on how the two candidates perform in Sunday's TV debate and whether or not a mammoth new Islamic bomb is going to blow away. Mr Peres's chances."

The threat of political violence has curtailed the normal exuberance of Israeli electioneering and given the whole performance a stilted feel. Both the main parties have cancelled planned mass rallies scheduled for early next week on the advice of the Shin Bet internal security service. The central issue which will decide the outcome of a poll regarded as the most critical in Israel's 48-year history is whether Mr Peres is able to deliver to the Israeli people the "security" offered to them by Mr Netanyahu, or whether the Likud leader is able to offer them any realistic chance of continuing with the "peace" initiated by Labour. The agonising differences of opinion in both the Israeli and Arab camps were again illustrated this week with *al-Aswaq*, the leading Jordanian paper, taking diplomats and politicians by surprise by publishing a story under the main front-page headline: A Likud victory would redeem the peace process. Mustafa Abu Libda, its editor, who has close connections with King Husain, accused Mr Peres of failing to implement financial guarantees he had given to both the Jordanians and Palestinians and of being weak-spined and hesitant. The daily added: "Arab psychology would prefer to work with someone like Netanyahu and a party like Likud because they are viewed as having the capacity to make decisions."

Shlomo Avineri, a respected Israeli political scientist, took the opposite point. "Both parties are going after the centre voters, but nobody is fooling anybody," he wrote.

Mr Netanyahu, in fighting mood, after a strategy meeting with his election staff yesterday. He says Mr Peres's lead is overestimated

Poll kingmakers target Bibi's colourful past

CAMPAIGN NOTEBOOK

Binyamin "Bibi" Netanyahu, the right-wing challenger to replace Shimon Peres as Prime Minister after Israel's election on Wednesday, is campaigning as a family man, but is being dogged by his colourful past.

Although the Likud leader, a master of the CNN soundbite, is favoured by the majority of ultra-Orthodox Jews, his support in this vital constituency could be affected by large signs on walls in religious Jewish areas in Jerusalem and the crowded Tel Aviv suburb of Bnei Brak saying: "Do Not Commit Adultery."

The slogans are described by experts on the ultra-Orthodox community — which has often performed the role of kingmaker in Israeli elections — as a crude attempt to revive disapproval of the "hot video affair". This was the 1993 scandal Mr Netanyahu had hoped was forgotten, in which he confessedf on television to cheating on his then new third wife, Sara, and claimed right-wing rivals were trying to blackmail him with a videotape, never seen publicly, of his extra-marital activities.

In Israel's often scurrilous media, Mr Netanyahu, 46, has attracted criticism for overplaying his image as a reformed family man. He has brought his wife and their two toddler sons, Yair and Avner, into the campaign at every opportunity, glossing over both Noa, 18 — his daughter from his first wife, Miki — and his second wife, Flair.

Calling for more, not less, investigation into his private life, the leading Hebrew broadsheet *Haaretz* argued it was necessary because "his familial image is of utmost political importance, and since he himself builds it up methodically".

So close is the contest that even Israel's top astrologist, Herzl Lifshitz, has admitted his inability to foresee the outcome. "Tell me I am a rotten astrologist, but — what can I tell you — I have not got a clue what is going to happen. I have never had this before," the stargazer said. "The thing I am most certain of is that terror will increase and that in January 1997, there will be war. What is strange is that I do not see either Peres or Bibi as Prime Minister. They do not have enough cosmic energy."

With all candidates banished by law from television and radio programmes in the three weeks before balloting, voters and politicians alike have been seeking relief from the diet of party political videos with a Friday night dose of the *Hartsufim*, the Hebrew version of *Spitting Image*, which has been one of Israel TV's biggest hits since its launch three months ago.

In one sketch, Mr Peres, whose vision of Middle Eastern harmony is seen by many Israelis as unrealistic, dons a virtual reality helmet. As bombs burst and flames rage in the background, the grotesque puppet version of the Prime Minister — himself a fan of the programme — obliviously enjoys placid scenes from a tropical island, and croons a Hebrew rendition of the Louis Armstrong hit *It's a Wonderful World*.

Mr Netanyahu, often criticised for having no policy of substance beyond Likud's catchall slogan "Peace with Security", was depicted recently with torturers trying to extract his programme from him.

The *Hartsufim* — the name combines the Hebrew words *hatsuf* or "cheeky" with *partsuf* or "face" — has offended many Labour supporters by lampooning Yitzhak Rabin, assassinated six months ago by a right-wing Jew opposed to his peace policies but still a dominant feature in the current Labour campaign.

"Yitzhak, Yitzhak, come, you must appear in [Peres's] campaign broadcasts," an angel implored the former Prime Minister whose political relations with his successor were often strained. "Tell them that just once, I want to see them winning without me," sighed the Rabin puppet, tapping cigarette ash on to a nearby cloud.

Although Rabin's outraged daughter termed the sketch the "height of bad taste" and the mass-circulation daily *Yediot Ahronot* reported the affair under the headline "Scandal", the *Hartsufim* appears set to go from strength to strength whoever becomes Israel's first directly elected Prime Minister.

Latest figures show almost a quarter of all households tune into the 20-minute programme and the producers say that some disgruntled politicians, not yet sent up, have offered cash to have puppets, however distorted, made up in their own likeness.

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The criticisms of fund-holding are well-founded

Problems for GPs

MEDICAL BRIEFING

◆

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE Audit Commission's report on fund-holding in general practice will be a disappointment to the Government. After opposition from GPs, fund-holding has been reluctantly accepted by most doctors, but it is still not popular with patients and the medical profession continues to have reservations.

If fund-holding had proved to be the great money-saver that was expected its shortcoming might have been excused by those who see the accountants' bottom line as the important benchmark for good medicine, but as it has proved costly there is not even this consolation.

Housemasters in Victorian boarding schools managed their own housekeeping. If the boys had bacon and eggs for breakfast the housemaster made a loss; if porridge was their staple diet the housemaster made a tidy profit even if the boys went hungry. Fund-holding reintroduces the 19th-century boarding school system to British medicine, even though, unlike the housemasters, GPs are only allowed to spend any surplus on the practice, and not on themselves.

However, a well-equipped and maintained practice done up with any surplus from fund-holding does provide financial as well as other advantages.

The Government has encouraged general practice in what cynics see as an effort to wean patients away from the more expensive treatment available in hospitals. Many doctors claim that the emphasis on general practice makes good medicine available to patients close to their own homes and with a minimum of delay. However, as the Audit Commission has discovered, not all patients are so certain: I have found that many would rather wait longer for a specialist opinion.

The Audit Commission criticises general practitioners for failing to provide a wider range of services, including physiotherapy and counselling. The Commission does, however, praise those GPs who established specialist outpatient clinics in their own practices. Even these schemes, though, involve taking a busy specialist from his hospital, where he'll be available to see emergencies as well as being present in the busy outpatients clinic. Consultants feel that their time and expertise is more fully exploited by remaining in the hospital than by seeing fewer patients in general practice.

Fund-holding practices enter into contracts with hospitals. This relationship has certainly improved communications between the hospital and the general practice. However, this does not always result in patients seeing the specialist best equipped to deal with their disease and with their personality. Ideally this involves using staff from a wide range of hospitals, some of whom will not be contracted to the practice.

The Audit Commission also applauds the ability shown by fund-holders to save on drug costs by what it perhaps euphemistically describes as "rational prescribing". Rational prescribing can too often mean choosing the cheapest, rather than the best, which is available on the chemist's shelves.

Old before their time

EVERY MP has a regular advice session or "surgery". One day an aged brother and sister attended one of mine in Norwich. The couple had grey hair, were very thin, and their skin was wrinkly. My heart went out to these pensioners who were finding it difficult to cope, but soon my compassion was matched by amazement when the brother told me, in the reedy voice of the aged, that he and his sister were in their mid thirties. They both suffered from one of the premature ageing syndromes, probably Werner's.

Werner's syndrome becomes obvious at puberty when the teenager already looks middle-aged; death occurs, usually from heart disease, at an average age of 47. The intellect is usually spared. I was, however, able to reassure the social services that my constituents were not skivers, but were already too old, physiologically, to work.

The Society of Research into Ageing has recently issued a warning that claims of the discovery of the gene which causes Werner's syndrome are exaggerated.

Testing for Down's syndrome

BLOOD tests are a standard way of detecting the possible presence of Down's syndrome in an unborn baby, but recently American scientists have reported that another test carried out on a pregnant woman's urine is just as accurate.

The test makes use of research undertaken by Howard Cuckle, Professor of Reproductive Epidemiology at Leeds University. The medical magazine *Doctor* emphasises that taking a urine sample is easier than collecting blood, and that the US research team has reported that the test is 80 to 90 per cent accurate.

Professor Cuckle has stressed that he doesn't contemplate a do-it-yourself kit for pregnant women so that they may test for Down's syndrome — amniocentesis remains the definitive procedure. Meanwhile, it is reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine* that Glasgow scientists have found another marker, the level of serum inhibin A in the blood, which gives a good indication of the likelihood of the mother bearing a Down's syndrome baby.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

VANITY AND THE BEAST

No tan, research now shows, is a safe tan. This weekend The Sunday Times **Magazine** tells you how to avoid skin cancer

WILD AT HEART

A rare interview with the superstar actor, director and eco-activist in his mountain lair

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

She wanted to come back as a butterfly

BBC PANORAMA/MIKE ROBINSON

The smiling face the whole nation came to know — but Jaymee was still a normal little girl who could be irritated by the constant attention

In the past 15 months, **Carol Midgley** came to know Jaymee Bowen well. Here she pays tribute to a child who won the heart of the nation with her extraordinary strength and courage

Six days ago Jaymee Bowen was due to have been the star guest at a party to launch a book about her life. Raspberry Pavlova, her favourite dessert, had been specially prepared. Glasses of champagne, wine and orange juice were lined up on trays at Dillons in Trafalgar Square amid an atmosphere of triumph and celebration.

But a few minutes after the party kicked off, the whisper went round that Jaymee was not coming. She was "feeling poorly" and wanted to lie down.

The press officers did their best to assure everyone that this was just a hiccup — 11-year-old Jaymee merely needed to rest. But for those of us who knew this child well it was obvious that there was something very, very wrong.

In fact, Jaymee had been admitted to the Portland Hospital in London where she finally succumbed to acute myeloid leukaemia late on Tuesday night.

In the 15 months that I had had the privilege to know her, this was the first time that I had seen her concede defeat to anything. This was a child who two months after NHS doctors said she would be dead was enjoying a school day-trip to Calais; a child who, though weak from chemotherapy treatment, asked for a mountain bike, which she rode until exhausted; a child who eight weeks ago was at the stage where she could not cross the road without losing her breath but still insisted on being taken to a Pizza Hut followed by a shopping trip to Toys 'R' Us.

'You want to have the chance to say your goodbyes'

In truth, since Jaymee was diagnosed as having non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) in 1990 at the age of five, she had been coping daily with unimaginable pain as a matter of course. She dealt with drugs and drips like an old hand shrugging off chemotherapy as "no big deal".

So it was clear that for her to pull out of a party where she would take centre stage was a very big deal indeed. The past six years had been spent in and out of hospital. After she was treated for NHL, the illness returned in the form of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. At the age of eight she underwent a bone marrow transplant with marrow donated by her sister Charlotte, ten, and had total body irradiation. By January 1995, however, the cancer had returned with vigour as acute myeloid leukaemia.

At that point Cambridge Health Authority said she should not have to endure any more treatment. Her father David, however, insisted that if there was any child who could sustain more chemotherapy, it was her.

Despite the tragic outcome 15 months later, David Bowen was right. Jaymee was a child of extraordinary strength, courage and complexity. She craved to be treated like an ordinary girl, yet she knew her condition made that impossible.

The first time I met her was in March last year, two days after her father had failed in the High Court to force Cambridge Health Authority to pay for her treatment. She was in a café bar and in a solemn mood, tired out from steroids and embarrassed by the attention she was getting. Twenty four hours later, sitting upright in bed at the Portland Hospital, where an anonymous benefactor had given £75,000 for her to be treated, attached to a drip and watching *Robin Hood, Men In Tights* on video, she was all smiles and cracking a string of "knock-knock" jokes.

In those days her father never told her she was the famous Child B under sentence of death from the National Health Service. But as we discovered months later, Jaymee had known all along, quietly keeping it to herself to avoid upsetting the father she idolised.

If she didn't like someone she made it crystal clear: if she did like you she showed it in her eyes and engaged you in earnest conversation about her favourite subjects: cinema, pop music and schoolwork, "especially maths".

Much has been written about Jaymee as the feisty schoolgirl who said she would like to "whack" the chief executive of Cambridge Health Authority. But little has been said about her darker days when, speaking with the head of a 25-year-old on an 11-year-old body, she once said of the doctors who condemned her to die: "How old are they then? Thirty, forty? Uch."

She was a deep thinker, someone who wondered out loud whether there was a God, concluding: "Well if there is a God, people still die of cancer." She believed in reincarnation and thought she would like to come back as a butterfly.

She was a little girl who behaved like a fussy mother over Charlotte, both of them never really knowing their natural mother, whom their father divorced when Jaymee was three.

Each time Jaymee went into hospital she would confide that she was not so much worried about herself as who would look after her when she was confined to bed.

Questions have been asked about whether Jaymee had a quality of life which could justify the 437 extra days she lived after the High Court case. It is a difficult question, but there were many, many times when she was genuinely happy. Her favourite day of last year was her eleventh birthday party, when, in the back garden of her grandparents' home in Thornton Heath, Surrey, she danced to a steel band and ate ice cream and cake until she felt sick.

She had a few months back at school — schoolwork was crucial to her ever-inquisitive mind — and she even began seeing a boyfriend. Jaymee was not unhappy, although she often insisted in an irritated way that she was not Superwoman and that she sometimes got "totally fed up" of her celebrity status.

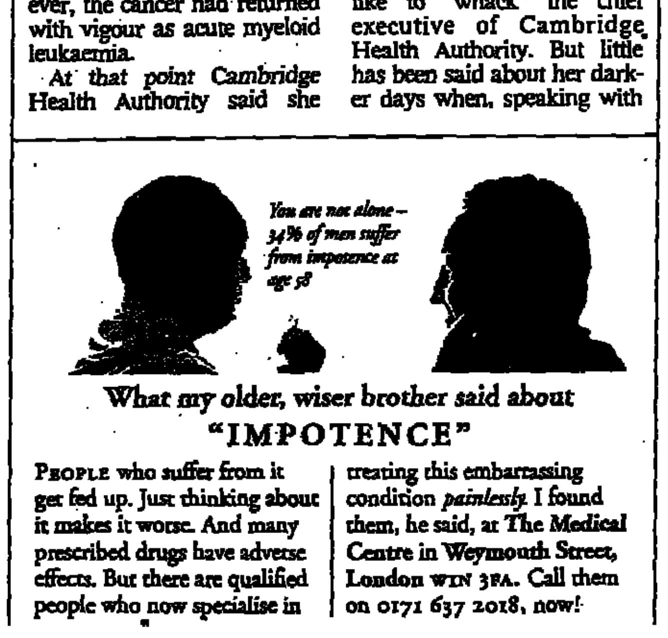
Once, as she was chased down the road in a taxi by a group of photographers, she said serenely: "I couldn't be bothered with that every day." She was sometimes exasperated by her treatment: "Each time you get to the end of the tunnel you think, 'I'm nearly at the end,' but the tunnel just gets longer," she said while having lunch at Harrods this month.

She was perplexed that her father had not told her she could be dying last year, adding: "You'd like to know if your life was going to end in eight days or twenty four hours so you could make the most of it. You would want to say your goodbyes."

Jaymee spent the past six days of her life surrounded by the people she loved and trusted. She went quickly, surprising everyone as usual.

As she slipped away, her father holding one hand and her sister the other, her family said she had a smile on her face and looked just as if she was sleeping.

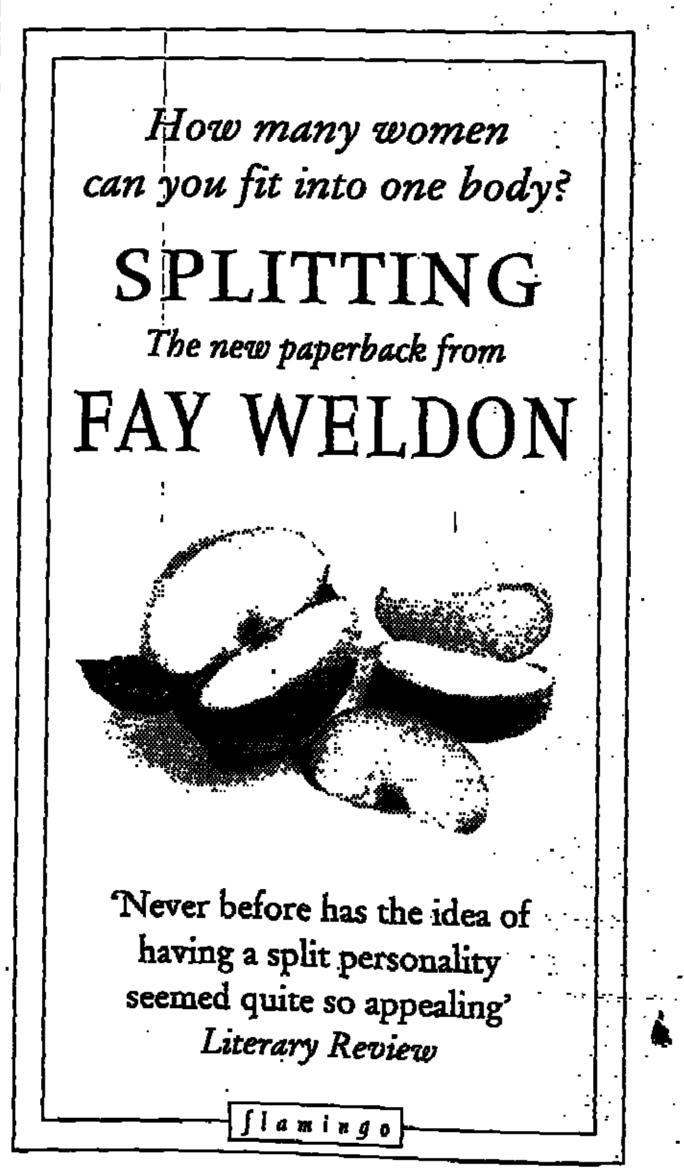
In Jaymee Bowen's inimitable way she had said her goodbyes.



You are not alone – 34% of men suffer from impotence at age 58

What my older, wiser brother said about "IMPOTENCE"

PEOPLE who suffer from it get fed up. Just thinking about it makes it worse. And many prescribed drugs have adverse effects. But there are qualified people who now specialise in treating this embarrassing condition *painlessly*. I found them, he said, at The Medical Centre in Weymouth Street, London W1N 3FA. Call them on 0171 637 2018, now!



How many women can you fit into one body?

SPLITTING

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Literary Review

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I want to be in the pictures

Why does Virginia Bottomley have such a negative image? **Joe Joseph** asks

The many faces of Virginia: colleagues call her bossy and ruthless, *Spitting Image* casts her as a bimbo, and those who call her 'attractive' make it sound like an insult

VIRGINIA Bottomley has a mystical talent for selecting the sort of photo opportunities that would make ordinary people like you and me look a little foolish but which, somehow, manage to make her look just completely barking.

Yesterday she turned up in our newspapers again, grinning madly at us from a Mad Hatter's Tea Party in Hyde Park. The idea was to launch a programme of free summer entertainment in London's *Royal* Parks. The National Heritage Secretary was sitting, sipping tea, between the Mad Hatter and the March Hare. It could have been a scene from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.* It could have been a still from *Spitting Image.* You had to read the caption to be certain.

Why does she do this? Either she is game, or gullible. Or, as her critics allege, so greedy for publicity that she would attend the opening of an envelope. In case anyone is running low on stock pictures of our Ginny, she even arranges her own photo opportunity every summer on the Isle of Wight, posing with her entire extended family, the Garnetts.

As in most of her posed snaps, Ginny is always enjoying herself, licking a lolly, wearing a silly hat, throwing a member of the invited press into the water, grimacing jokily at a brother wearing a T-shirt that reads "League Against Powerful Women".

A year ago, Bottomley — who was still Health Secretary at the time — and the then Heritage Secretary Stephen Dorrell offered themselves to Fleet Street's cameras riding a tandem in Trafalgar Square. Why? To promote the benefits of cycling, obviously. Luckily, the patron saint of newspaper caption writers arranged it so that Central Office failed to provide Bottomley with any handlebars — a godsend with a big vote on NHS reforms on the horizon.

In February, Virginia was photographed — willingly — blowing into a lur, a sort of traditional *Viking horn. It was to mark the* launch of the Jorvik Festival on the River Ouse in York. Accompanied by a costumed Viking, she looked as if she might have been summoned to shift a blockage in some antique Viking plumbing. If you were being charitable you would say that her face, in full blow, reminded you of Dizzy Gillespie's.

It's not that Bottomley is alone in making such photographic gaffes — remember John Gummer stuff*ing a hamburger down his daugh*ter in 1990 to allay fears of mad cow disease infecting humans? Remember Neil and Glenys Kinnock's romantic stroll along Brighton beach in 1983, when Neil lost his footing as he struggled to pull *Glenys from the unruly surf?*

But Bottomley is beginning to show plenty of clear water between herself and her closest rival. Her move to the Heritage Department from health has at least quadrupled her opportunities to be photographed by paparazzi, posing alongside actors, artists and celebrities as she flits from gallery opening to film premiere.

But all these photos may yield an even crueller harvest in years to come. *Time can play tricks with* archives: files go missing, pages of books flutter free, captions get detached from photos.

So imagine when historians in the year 2096 are looking back and researching the life and times of *Virginia Bottomley MP, and they* are trying to divine something of her character from a sheaf of old photos that are no longer attached to any of their explanatory captions: what will they make of Virginia goofing around with Postman Pat and Dennis the Menace at Waterloo station? Of her giving blood surrounded by cameras? Of sweeping the beach at Bognor with a huge broom? They might wonder: did MPs have to take Saturday jobs?

Arriving at the Cannes Film Festival last week to fly the flag for Britain, Bottomley wore pale blue jacket, quilted blue handbag, pearls, court shoes, neckscarf — perfect for canasta with the Wom*en's Guild but a bit understated for* Cannes. She actually posed for fewer snaps than normal. The reason? Bottomley was convinced she was being followed by a crazed stalker wearing glasses and with ginger hair. It turned out to be Denis Pennis of BBC2's *Sunday Show*, who pounces on celebrities, asking inane questions.

If the aim of all her posing is to boost her image, it hasn't worked. Polls frequently judge her to be Britain's most insincere politician. In one poll that tested reactions to alternative Tory leaders, she proved less popular than Heseltine, Hurd, Clarke or Portillo, all of whom ranked below John Major.

Spitting Image casts her as a *bimbo. Some call her bossy, ruth*less. Others call her nannyish. Even those who call her "attractive" make it sound like an insult.

She can be just as blunt. This is a woman who at the age of six, according to her father, "kicked the *au pair* out of the kitchen and began cooking the family breakfast herself" because the *au pair* wasn't doing it properly. The only surprise about this story is that the young Ginny didn't have the presence of mind to call a press conference to announce the dismissal.

Surprising to us, maybe, but apparently not to her. "The fact that some people think I'm pushy is very odd," she said last month in a BBC documentary, *Ladies Of The House*. "I'm quite a decent person one way and another." Of course she is. And what's more, she's got the pictures to prove it.

Kicking up a rumpus

Why Barcelona's revolting over a soccer sacking

ELEGANT Barcelona is in the grip of a revolt. Fans are screaming their displeasure in the streets and the newspapers after the city's football club sacked Johan Cruyff, its Dutch coach, on Saturday, *and replaced him with En*gland's Bobby Robson.

Mr Cruyff, the most successful coach in the club's history, is a Catalan icon, having coached the squad since 1988 and been a player *for five years. Now he is* threatening the club's president, Josip-Luis Nuñez, with a penalty shootout at an industrial tribunal.

Ever since Señor Nuñez secured Mr Cruyff's coaching *services, the Dutchman has* refused to discuss football with the club's board and banned the president from the players' dressing-room.

As long as Mr Cruyff ensured that the club's cupboards were teeming with trophies, Señor Nuñez was disposed to tolerate his coach's "absence of courtesy".

In his pomp, Mr Cruyff coached Barcelona to its first European Cup, and to four successive Spanish League titles between 1991 and 1994.

But Barcelona has since suffered a couple of very poor seasons: so Señor Nuñez has decided that since he had neither cups nor courtesy from the coach, it was time to say *adios* to Mr Cruyff.

BARCELONA'S passionate football fans, however, are outraged. On Sunday, when Señor Nuñez was spotted in the directors' box, halfway through a match, thousands of spectators waved white handkerchiefs furiously at him, in a traditional Spanish gesture of contempt.

The passion will take long to die down. "Cruyff si, Nuñez no", screamed hundreds of fans this week. "Robson, el inglès, had better be careful next season," one of them said. Is Mr Robson listening?

TUNKU VARADARAJAN

Giles Whittell on a book that tells women to start behaving badly

True love terrors

THIS may be the grandest idea to come out of feminism since Mrs Pankhurst demanded the vote. Or it may be gobbledegook. Either way, a call to self-discovery is at the heart of a new book by Sheila Gillooly designed to comfort every Ms Twentysomething who has vainly pursued Mr Wrong, only to recoil from Mr Right when he turns up on her doorstep.

Venus in Spurs, published in America, argues that women often pursue long-term commitment in their romantic lives only because they have been taught to. Deep down, it says, they are just as scared of it as men. Ms Gillooly's solution? Don't abandon all hope of connubial bliss, but concentrate on finding yourself first.

Subtitled "Why you Head for the Hills When Love Comes to Town", the book concentrates largely on why Ms Gillooly did precisely this during her twenties, when her life seemed a roller-coaster ride of misjudged seduction attempts and cancelled second dates. She was miserable. But it was only when "The One" (he is not named) professed unconditional love that she panicked, even piling on weight to put him off.

The story had a happy ending, though. So sincere was The One that his devotion *to Gillooly survived her* weight-gain, which she came to see as a symptom of "commitment phobia".

Her advice to all women similarly afflicted is to binge, have *one-night stands* and *generally behave badly* — something, she argues, that women have missed out on. In the process you will find yourself, and happiness. You may scoff, but it seems to have worked for her.

TAKE YOUR PARTNERS

Dancing towards the Olympics — but is it sport? Page 46

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Howard's production line justice

Lord Chief Justice Taylor condemns minimum sentences

Last October, Michael Howard announced to the Conservative Party conference his proposals for mandatory life sentences for those convicted for a second time of violent, sexual or drugs offences, and for stiff minimum sentences for those convicted for a third time of domestic burglary. The details have now been set out in a White Paper, and will be debated in the Lords today.

There is no doubt that the Home Secretary has responded to wide public concern, and that there is considerable support for his objectives. Everyone deplores the apparently relentless rise of crime in our society, and in particular of crimes committed again and again by those for whom it has become a way of life.

But there is no evidence that Mr Howard's proposals will achieve his aims. On the contrary, those who actually work in the system — lawyers, judges, probation and prison officers — are clear that they will not. There is no merit in adopting a macho attitude regardless of its efficacy. The experience of minimum and mandatory sentences in America has been that they clog up the courts and prisons while actually reducing the chances of convicting professional criminals by drastically reducing the number of guilty pleas.

The proponents of minimum sentences claim three benefits for their scheme: certainty, severity and progression (ie that repeat offences will attract ever-harsher penalties). Certainty in sentencing can be achieved only by sacrificing justice. Individual crimes vary almost infinitely, as do individual criminals. The task of the judge is to tailor the sentence to the individual case: to impose a punishment which not only produces the right mix of punishment and opportunity for rehabilitation, but also provides an apt and fitting mark of the wrong which has been done — both to the victim and to society.

The consequences of "production-line" justice — of sentencing by rote or by formula — were vividly demonstrated by the humiliating fiasco of the Unit Fine system, which collapsed under the weight of its own contradictions three years ago, after less than a year in operation. The Government's latest proposals suggest that it has learnt none of the lessons of this policy failure.

On the contrary, it proposes that all those convicted on three separate occasions of domestic burglary, however modest the value of the theft and however long the lapse of time, should receive an automatic three-year "real time" prison sentence (equivalent to 4½ years under the present law). No account would be taken of whether the criminal was before the court for three offences or 30, how much time had passed between those offences, whether they involved sophisticated planning or drunken opportunism, or a host of other factors (not least the effect on the victims).

The advocates of greater severity start from the proposition that judges and magistrates are currently too lenient in sentencing burglars. I have no doubt that what mainly deters criminals is the real likelihood of detection and arrest, not the theoretical possibility of incarceration for three rather than two years. Since at present the chances of detection of a domestic burglary are at best about three in 20, imposing minimum sentences of three years for those few offences that come to court is unlikely to reduce crime.

But, more crucially, is there any truth in the charge that the courts are too lenient with domestic burglars? The usual tariff after conviction at a contested Crown Court trial for burglary of a dwelling is three years if it is unoccupied, four if occupied. Considerably longer terms apply for aggravated burglaries, in which violence is used. In "real time", this range is equivalent to two to three years in prison, although it can be discounted for a guilty plea, in accordance with the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, and mitigated by factors such as previous good character.

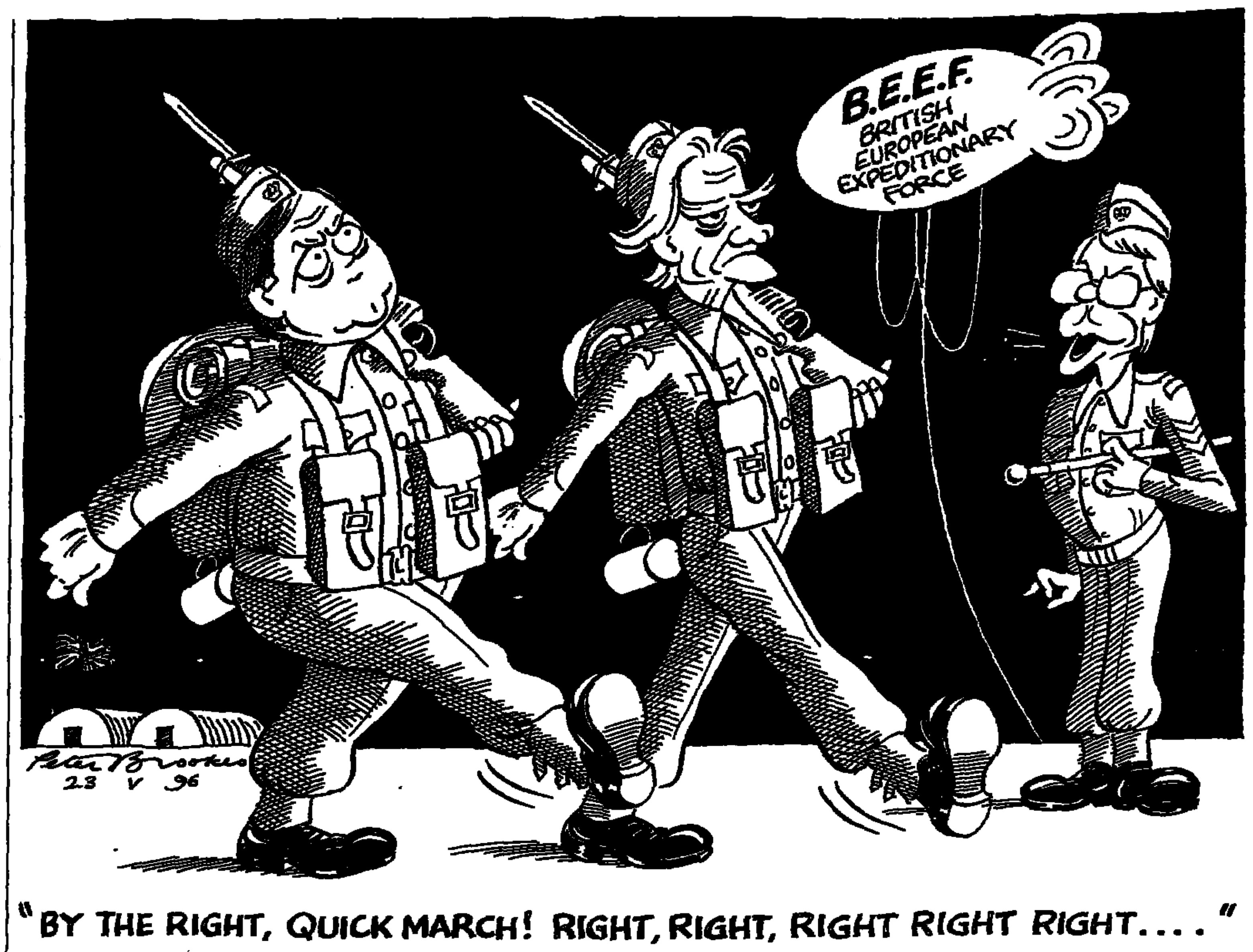
If these sentence lengths are unduly lenient for a crime which involves no violence, what longer terms must we impose for offences against the person? One of the many anomalies these proposals would create is that the minimum sentence for a burglary would become as severe as — or even greater than — the current average sentence actually served for serious crimes of violence, even including rape. Either that, or the intention is to ratchet up all prison sentences in order to maintain a sensible relation between the penalty imposed for different crimes — so enormously increasing the already very large (and expensive) projections of the prison population.

The final charge is that there is insufficient progression in sentencing severity: that sentences do not increase as they should as criminals offend repetitively. The White Paper figures purport to show that average sentences increase only from 16 months for a first offence to 19 months for a third offence. Yet some of these figures are from a period when judges were prevented by statute from taking account of any of a criminal's offences but the two most recent. So for the Government to criticise the judiciary for leniency is wholly unjustifiable.

But there is more progression than the bald figures show. If one takes out repeat offenders who had not received a prison sentence for their previous convictions, even average sentences in this sample increase by 2.5 months for a second conviction, and by 5.6 months for a third.

Quite apart from the manifest injustice of sentencing without regard to the circumstances of the case, the statistics relied upon are therefore insufficient and tainted. The effects of the proposals for minimum sentences would be vastly to increase the prison population, and to require a fundamental reconsideration of the comparative sentences imposed for these and other crimes upon first conviction.

The Government would do well to listen to the arguments in Parliament, and to consider whether its proposals are necessary or justified.



"BY THE RIGHT, QUICK MARCH! RIGHT, RIGHT, RIGHT RIGHT RIGHT...."

Monty Python politics

The Prime Minister is a weak man trying to look strong — what a humiliation for a once-great power

William Rees-Mogg

The Prime Minister's new policy of the "half-empty chair", as they are calling it in Brussels, is the wrong response to the wrong aspect of the wrong European issue. He has confused the big and permanent issue of Europe's constitutional future — which flows into and out of the Maastricht treaty, with some specific economic issues affecting particular interests. Beef and fish are the most important of these specifics. John Major has chosen to use his most dramatic weapon, non co-operation in the European process, to buttress Britain's case on this particular beef issue, or on a narrow part of it. That could weaken his position on the constitutional issues, which are historically so much more important. His tactic could also fail to work.

There is even doubt about the Prime Minister's objective in threatening to use his extreme deterrent. In his article in yesterday's *Daily Express*, he refers to the European Commission's proposal to lift the ban on the three beef by-products, tallow, gelatin and semen. It was the blocking of this proposal which so angered the British Government that it decided to threaten the half-empty chair. Yet the Prime Minister admits: "There is a chance of progress on this narrow front when European ministers discuss it again early next month."

The by-products ban was the trigger for the new British threat, but the Prime Minister accepts that this ban might have been lifted in any case, as the commission had already proposed.

He goes on to say — and this is the ambiguous point — that: "Even then, we need to make progress towards lifting the beef ban altogether — our main objective." What is "progress"? It could be said, perhaps it will be said, that a lifting of the by-products ban does in itself constitute "progress towards lifting the beef ban altogether". Yet the lifting of the beef ban itself would still be remote.

The continental European countries follow the progress of the scientific research into BSE as closely as Britain does. The research is also followed by the Americans, who have had a ban on British beef since 1989, which they show no signs of lifting. As I reported on Monday, scientists do not yet know whether BSE in cattle can be transmitted to human beings or not. And still less are they sure of the precise means of transmission if it occurs. Experiments are being conducted on mice which are likely to determine whether the ten or 12 "new" cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease are or are not BSE transmitted to man. Those experiments will probably give a decisive answer within a year.

Both in Britain and in the rest of Europe, the outcome of these experiments will create an entirely new situation. If it is proved that BSE, with its characteristic signature, is being transmitted from cow to man to mouse, then the beef ban is likely to remain in force until the British herd is effectively free of the disease. Although the BSE epidemic is declining, there are still more than 100 further cases each week.

If, on the other hand, the "new" human cases turn out to be merely a variant of sporadic CJD, that would leave no evidence that BSE can cross the species barrier to man. Then indeed the mantra that British beef is "safe in any normal definition of the word" would be true.

Europe is not therefore going to lift the main beef ban until it is known whether or not BSE is infectious to man. Nor would Britain now import European beef, if the situations were reversed. The Prime Minister's threat of the half-empty chair is therefore an empty one. The narrow ban on by-products will probably be lifted anyway, and his threat could make that less rather than more likely. The beef ban is not now going to be lifted until people know that they cannot catch CJD from eating beef. So long as there are 100 BSE cases a week, it is obvious that some pre-clinical BSE cows are still going to get into the human food supply. European consumers will not take the risk.

The Prime Minister is exposing himself to scepticism and even ridicule by deploying Britain's ultimate negotiating weapon in Europe, or at least our penultimate weapon, in order to put pressure on those three great issues of state: Tallow, Gelatin and Semen.

Some ministers have tried to explain how this strange policy will work. One of them, wisely remaining anonymous, told the *Financial Times* what terrible things the Government would do. Ministers will even go so far as to disregard the agenda of European discussions. "If we are there to talk about transport, we will talk about beef. If fishing is on the table, we will talk about beef."

This is a foreign policy scripted by Monty Python. In any case, British fishermen, who are just as angry as the beef farmers, will be anything but pleased to hear that British ministers, instead of criticising Spanish over-fishing in the Irish Box, or some such subject of interest to them, will be arguing to the European Fisheries Committee that there are no BSE prions in tallow, or that gelatin is safe if it has been treated at a high enough temperature for a long enough time.

Some observers think that the Prime Minister's new policy is only secondarily concerned with Europe, or even with beef, and that it is primarily a response to the divisions in his own party. There the immediate reaction was favourable, but even 24 hours later it has cooled. Both among Europhiles, who might be expected to be annoyed, and among Euro-sceptics, who might have liked it better, I have been hearing the comment that this is the gesture of a weak man trying to look strong. The cynical view, common in both groups, is that the Prime Minister expects to win a relaxation of the ban on the beef by-products, and perhaps a few words suggesting that the main beef ban won't last forever, and that he will then declare a victory in his own favour. Hardly anyone believes that he will continue the half-empty chair policy until the beef ban has actually been lifted.

In the meantime, the serious economic decline of Europe continues, with or without Britain. The clouds of negative energy, which are so symptomatic of the decay of political systems, now blanket the European Union including the British Isles. On Tuesday, the German Economics Ministry reported that the economy had declined, after price and seasonal adjustments, for two consecutive quarters. Technically, that puts Germany in recession.

The Germans have the strongest industrial base in Europe; it is, on some measurements, the third largest economy in the world, after the United States and Japan. On other measurements, China comes second only to the United States.

Yet Germany in the 1990s is a high-cost, high-tax economy with short working hours and high and rising unemployment. Chancellor Kohl has introduced a programme of expenditure cuts, which are meeting strong trade union resistance. Nurses, hospital orderlies, dustman, postmen and civil servants have all joined protest strikes, which the *Handelsblatt*, Germany's financial daily, rashly called "the revolt of the dwarfs". Europe regards the German economy as the engine which will carry everyone forward; that engine has now stalled.

What is the Foreign Secretary expected to say when the European Union discusses high unemployment and the other competitive weaknesses of the European economy? Even when not in recession, the EU now grows at only a quarter the rate of the Pacific tiger economies. Malcolm Rifkind will have to talk about beef. "I say, Signor, did you know that we have only had about a quarter the number of cases of BSE in Scotland that they've had down in the West Country. Only 129 Aberdeen Angus have caught the disease so far. You're really almost safe eating Scottish beef, and I can assure you it's quite delicious." This will now be the diplomacy of what was once a great power.

There comes a time when nothing works for ministers. They've used up the confidence of the people, they have used up the trust of their allies; they have exhausted their own energies: they have lost faith in themselves. The *Daily Mail* — "Major goes to war at last" — and the *Daily Express* — "Major speaks for Britain" — think that this spasm of hysteria after years of incompetence shows that the Government has recovered the will to govern. It is not so. The half-empty chair is the symbol of a half-dead Government.

Reader, I do not believe it

Magnus Linklater questions the Brontë 'discovery'

I have somewhere a photograph of myself, grinning weakly, holding two volumes of the so-called Hitler Diaries. The picture was taken just as the sorry hoax was beginning to unravel, and this was a souvenir not to be treasured, but to be kept hidden away as an awful reminder of human fallibility and greed. From my involvement in that episode, back in 1983, I learnt, first, to be very wary of the phrase "99.9 per cent certain" — used to me by Lord Dacre as reassurance on the day before publication of the diaries in *The Sunday Times* — and secondly to distrust all experts, particularly handwriting experts, who are almost always wrong. Most of all I remember, with deep guilt, the way I and others on the paper "willed" the story to be true, just when we should have been most critical. The very fact that the outside world was so derisively sceptical led to a closing of our minds to contrary evidence.

There is, of course, no real comparison between that extraordinary saga and the "discovery" of an unknown novel by Charlotte Brontë, reported this weekend beneath banner headlines. The *Hitlerschrift*, if true, would have altered our view of history. The new Brontë — *Sarah Miles*, a story of four Yorkshire women going through hard times during the industrial revolution — would be merely a literary treat. But what a treat. Giles Gordon, the agent who is currently negotiating its sale to eager publishers, reports that it may come to be considered her finest work; it is, he says, an "unprecedented" find, "the publishing sensation of the autumn". Not for nothing is Mr Gordon considered an agent *sans pareil*.

And there is, so far as we know, no hoaxer. Just a forgotten Victorian novel and the will to believe that it is a Brontë. Naturally we want it to be true. What could be more thrilling than a novel to equal *Jane Eyre*? Already it has been described as "compulsively readable", full of memorable women and splendid passages of descriptive prose. It would fill the literary pages and inspire academic theses. Just think of the movie rights.

But in an age when the suspension of disbelief is almost endemic, we have a duty to be a little more rigorous about these things, lest we develop a collective softening of the brain. Let us remember that there are no such things as UFOs, bending spoons, Yetis, Loch Ness Monsters, corn circles formed by space machines, astrological science or London double-deckers at the South Pole. And there is no such thing as an undiscovered work by Charlotte Brontë. There, I've said it.

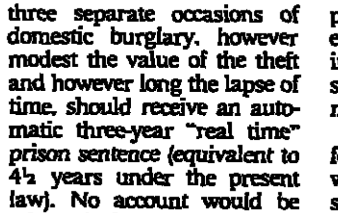
What happens in these cases is that the "positive" evidence is seized on and the rest is airbrushed out. As I combed through the description of how the book was found and why it might indeed be a genuine Brontë, I felt the first prickles of uncertainty. It was not so much the hyperbole — "an antiquarian's dream come true ... literary timebomb ... an addition to the canon of English literature" — as the apparently convincing detail. The finder, Ian King, who owns the excellent Old Grindle's bookshop in Edinburgh, has fed sections of the text into his Apple Mac and has thrown up what he calls remarkable parallels with other Brontë works. Among them are the phrase "these porridges" which also appears in *Jane Eyre*, and the word "disagreeables", also used in the plural; the author addresses the reader directly, as in "Reader, I married him".

It's probably unfair to haul these examples out. I am sure Mr King has many others, more convincing. But I am beginning to think that computer comparisons may be, when it comes to literature, the modern equivalent of the handwriting expert; not only the Hitler Diaries, but the Mussolini Diaries and the faked Howard Hughes autobiography were all "authenticated" by graphologists. They were all wrong. I wonder whether the computer is any more reliable? I would like to ask Mr King, for instance, how many passages he discovered that were *nothing* like Charlotte Brontë. Even the critic Angus Calder, who contributed a cautious analysis in *Scotland on Sunday*, is dubious about the author's extensive use of "truculent" dialogue, her uncompromising feminism and rushed transitions of narrative. Do these not outweigh a smattering of "disagreeables"?

I also wonder why it was necessary for Mr King to conduct his research in secret, working night and day without consulting the Brontë experts, of whom there is no shortage? Why the rush, why the secrecy? Why is there no reference to the manuscript in any of the Brontë biographies, including Mrs Gaskell's? And can we really believe Mr King's tortuous explanation of its origins — stolen by a jealous friend from Charlotte's room after her death, hidden for 30 years, then published under the name of another author? In the case of the Hitler Diaries, the story of how they were concealed after the war was also unbelievable, though we chose to believe it.

I hope I'm wrong. If I am, I shall eat this column, newsprint and all, in Mr Gordon's elegant New Town dining-room. But I suspect it won't come to that.

The hat's off

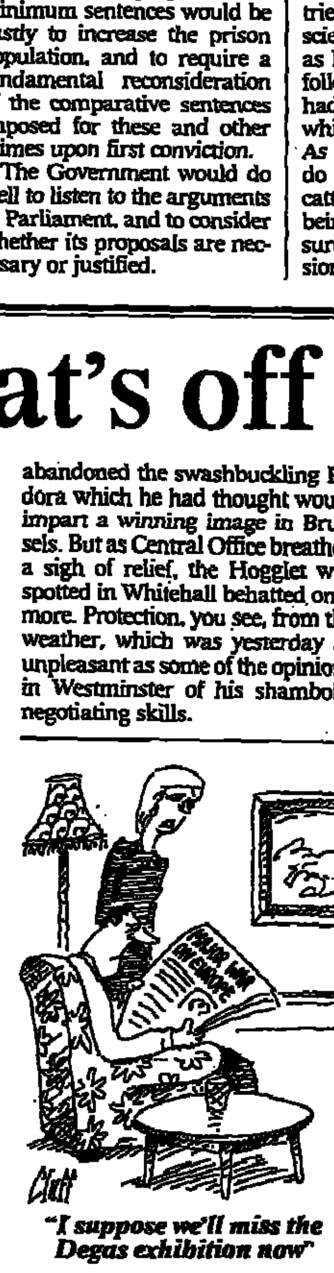


Hogg: heading for trouble

THE PERFORMANCE of the embattled Agriculture Minister, Douglas Hogg, during the BSE crisis has been a source of concern in Downing Street. Now his dress sense is under attack.

Sir Tim Bell, the public relations guru who is again advising the Government after years in the cold, is urging that Hogg abandon the ludicrous hat he has been sporting in Brussels. I understand that Bell's message about headgear has been passed to Hogg via his wife Sarah, who at one time headed the Downing Street Policy Unit.

The press office at Central Office has endorsed the sentiment, and Hogg seemed this week to have taken the hint. On Tuesday, he abandoned the swashbuckling Fedora which he had thought would impart a winning image in Brussels. But as Central Office breathed a sigh of relief, the Hogglet was spotted in Whitehall behatted once more. Protection, you see, from the weather, which was yesterday as unpleasant as some of the opinions in Westminster of his shambolic negotiating skills.



"I suppose we'll miss the Degas exhibition now"

THE TIMES DIARY

- *In the footsteps of his famous grandfather, Gopal Gandhi is off to South Africa next month as the new Indian High Commissioner in Pretoria. Presumably he will enjoy his stay rather more than his forebear, who was jailed for his stand against racism.*

Little treasure

MY WHOLEHEARTED congratulations to Elisabeth Wright, who after 33 years at the Japanese Embassy is to be rewarded for her sterling work with the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver Rays, at a ceremony at the Embassy in Piccadilly today.

Miss Wright has served 11 ambassadors as private secretary, visited Japan twice and hob-nobbed with the Japanese Imperial family — all the while refusing to learn the language of her employers. "Not a word," she says cheerfully. "I made all the ambassadors practise their English on me."

Bottoms out

MPs are watching their backs more carefully than ever. A mysterious Labour Member has been prowling the corridors of Westminster with a Polaroid camera, snapping colleagues' bottoms.

His purpose is to collect candidates for the first Commons and Lords "Rears of the Year" awards, but he is remaining anonymous. We only know that he has a southern constituency. "He has already singled out Michael Portillo and I expect other nominations shortly," says organiser Anthony Edwards.

The corridor-creeper would do well to steer clear of Tony Banks. "I shall warn my colleagues not to show their bottoms in the House," says Banks. "If anyone is caught taking a picture of my bottom, he will get a sound thrashing."

Turfed in

FANS of last night's European Cup finalists Ajax can now stay in touch with their beloved soccer club from beyond the grave. A 40ft by 50ft patch of pitch from the Amsterdam side's former ground is being moved to a crematorium on the outskirts of the city. Supporters will be able to pay a fee, as yet undisclosed, to have their ashes scattered over the turf, and to have a small gravestone in the club's red and white erected on the grass.

Trevor and Sharon: he's playing chukkas while she works

Another cup

THE actress Sharon Maughan hopes she has finally found a way to keep her over-active husband, Trevor Eve, out of mischief. The couple were at a lunch party yesterday for the draw for the Veuve Clicquot Gold Cup, where she explained that she is eagerly encouraging her husband's own polo career as a playing member at Cowdray Park. He has tried everything else involving bats and balls.

"He's all but exhausted the sports list," said the doyenne of Gold Blend girls wearily. "We've had tennis and what-have-you — now it's polo. But I think this is it. He's hooked. And now he will be out of my hair so I can work on my film script."

P·H·S

هكذا في الأصل

BULLY FOR BEEF

The election may come sooner than we thought

Boldness has never been John Major's defining virtue. But on the few occasions on which he has exercised it, his daring has paid off. The new policy of non-co-operation in Europe can be counted alongside his 1995 leadership election as a high-risk, but potentially high-reward, strategy. At one stroke, the Prime Minister has changed the political outlook for both main parties.

Until very recently, there were few Tories who thought that the general election should be held before spring of next year. The November Budget's tax cuts needed time to feed through into pay packets, it was thought, and a greater sense of prosperity needed time to be reflected in the polls. To fight this autumn and lose would give rise to endless regret and speculation about what could have been achieved had the Prime Minister held on until the end of his term.

But the balance of risks and opportunities was already changing before this new stance on Europe. As tax revenues evaporated, to the Treasury's alarm, the scope for tax cuts in the autumn had almost vanished. Better, perhaps, to hold an election before November than to have a disappointing Budget that did nothing for the Tories' electoral fortunes.

Meanwhile, the death of just one Conservative MP would deprive Mr Major of his Commons majority. The prospect of limping through the winter, dependent upon the support of the Ulster Unionists, stirs memories of the doomed Callaghan Government, which might have won an election had it held one in autumn 1978 rather than spring 1979. The only Government this century that has won an election with a workable majority within six months of the end of its term of office was Mr Major's own administration in 1992.

The most powerful argument against going to the country this autumn was that, by then, the Tories might not have closed enough of the gap in the opinion polls. This is where the beef strategy, if it works, will come into play. Already, Mr Major has achieved the rare feat of uniting both the mass of his party and the traditionally Tory newspapers behind his move. This combination may well help to boost the Conservatives in the polls; this in turn will stiffen the resolve of Tories and demoralise the Labour Party.

Will the position itself be popular with the voters whom Mr Major needs to attract? Beef is not the ideal issue on which to take on Europe. The spread of BSE is almost entirely the fault of inadequate government measures; and more people blame the Government than Europe for the mess. Consumer boycotts (as Shell discovered with the Brent Spar) are the hardest to crack. The partial ban will no doubt be lifted, as it would have been without the new stance, but the full ban may stubbornly remain.

Mr Major will, therefore, want to enlarge the battleground, to use beef merely as a symbol for the need to change the workings of the EU. This should appeal to two tranches of disaffected Tories: right-wingers who might otherwise have abstained or supported the Referendum Party, and the so-called "Basildon" voters who would not go near a Liberal Democrat candidate.

Tony Blair, meanwhile, will be left with the floaters of the centre. He will try to resist Tory attempts to make this a single-issue general election. He will doubtless warn the country that the Tories secretly want to withdraw altogether from the EU; and — shades of 1964 — he will portray this policy as backward-looking compared with the "modern" constructive position of Labour.The new aggressiveness has thrown Labour onto the defensive. Caught between the desire to neutralise the issue by backing the Government and exploiting the territory now vacated by Mr Major, Mr Blair and his colleagues do not know which way to go.

Mr Major can capitalise upon the Opposition's disarray only if he stands firm himself. On the last occasion that a Tory Prime Minister called an election on the question "Who governs Britain?", his resolve cracked too early. Edward Heath made concessions to the miners during the course of the campaign, and Harold Wilson narrowly won. But the Tories garnered more votes than Labour and managed to claw back their deficit in the polls. The lesson for today's Prime Minister is clear: hold your nerve.

IMRAN TO DECLARE

A statesman needs policies and a team as well as popularity

To remember Imran Khan captaining his cricket team is to understand his appeal to the populace of Pakistan. But now Mr Khan is moving from fast bowling to fast talking, pitching himself onto the political platform under the banner of anti-corruption.

Last month Mr Khan launched Tehreek-i-Insaaf, his Justice Movement. This week he is in Britain to rally support among an emigrant population who, though they do not hold a vote in Pakistan, maintain strong links with relatives back home. He is inspecting the pitch before the possible transformation of his movement into a political party in a few months' time.

The reason he has drawn the crowds says as much about the sterile state of Pakistani politics as it does about Mr Khan's status as national hero. Pakistan is a state pushing towards a liberal Islamic democracy. The secular government holds sway by warding off the most threatening extremes of Islam, while maintaining a public front of respect for Islamic doctrines. The established political parties — the Pakistan People's Party of Benazir Bhutto and the Pakistan Muslim League of Nawaz Sharif — are based on shifting coalitions of self-interested individuals, opportunist politicians whose motivating force seems to be private gain and the perpetuation of power. For a nation struggling to free itself from past military rule and establish true democracy, support for Mr Khan is a *cri de coeur* for change.

The danger for Mr Khan, however, will be an assumption that his instant popularity amounts to an endorsement of him as a politician and a thinker. While he pinpoints the problems of Pakistan — corruption, violence, feudalism, poverty, illiteracy — his high-minded standpoint is politically simplistic, even naive. There is as yet little indication that he has formulated any coherent strategies for solutions.

Mr Khan risks being used by Islamic groups to further their political agenda. After egregious pro-Islamist remarks he seems to have moderated his views, recognising that such groups as the Jamaat-i-Islaami could prove themselves an electoral liability. On the other hand, if he veers towards a less extremist stance, he will find himself courting the same voters as Ms Bhutto. Splitting her electorate may open the way into government for the Muslim League, which cannot be Mr Khan's intention.

The real problems of Pakistan lie far beyond the bickerings of factional politics. A nation staggering under the pressures of population expansion and further debilitated by constant feuds on its northern borders needs leaders who are prepared to take serious, if unpopular, decisions. It needs statesmen who can formulate consistent policies away from the quagmire of political infighting. Mr Khan's real test will come when he matches himself against the difficulties of drawing up a detailed manifesto and gathering together a leadership team to confront his opponents in a general election.

GAZZA AND THE GREAT WALL

Over the Moon for the wonder of the world

Paul Gascoigne turned down his chance to visit the Great Wall of China yesterday. He played cards in his hotel instead, while the rest of England's football team stepped up final training on the world's most distinctive monument. When told that of all man's work on Earth, it alone could be seen from the Moon, Gascoigne replied that in that case he would wait until he got to the Moon.

Everybody has his own way of relaxing before a big match. Gascoigne, who weeps easily in public, may have mistrusted the emotion inspired by the largest construction on the planet, built at the cost of a million lives and snaking majestically through a sea of rugged mountains. Or perhaps the height of the wall, ten times that of a crossbar, might have reminded him of the distance he has been shooting over the top recently. He certainly disappointed the photographers who had been looking for an opportunity to contrast ancient with modern celebrity.

So he missed what is the most ancient wonder of the tourist trade after the pyramids. For 30 centuries people have been coming to the wall. Mongols, Manchus and Japanese crossed it in war, Kublai Khan in peace. Now tourists visit it in packages. Richard Nixon was so overwhelmed that he could only comment, "It's a great wall".

Marco Polo forgot to mention the wall in his memoirs, but then he also forgot to mention tea and the ideographic script of the Chinese. So when on his death bed he said that he had barely told half of what he saw in China, he may have had the wall in mind.Everybody thinks less of himself for never having visited the Great Wall. James Boswell said he really believed he would go and see the wall of China, if he did not have children whom he had a duty to look after. In magisterial mode Dr Johnson replied: "Sir, by doing so, you would do what would be of importance in raising your children to eminence. There would be a lustre reflected on them from your spirit and curiosity. They would be at all times regarded as the children of a man who had gone to view the wall of China. I am serious, Sir."

Let us hope that Gascoigne recovers his curiosity and spirit in midfield for England's first match against China today. With a quarter of mankind wanting to watch it in China, and millions more in England, the television audience should set a record for an England match. The Chinese are unknown quantities in world football. But a local expert says that on the field their team exemplifies the teachings of Confucius: namely, obedience, respect, unselfishness, and the need to work together for the common good.

And, of course, they have a famous defensive wall. Not all these qualities have always been on show in Terry Venables's squad. But it would be a misfortune to have travelled to the end of the Silk Road, with everything to lose and very little to win, and then to fail to score. To miss the Great Wall as well would be carelessness worthy of Marco Polo.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

UK challenge on the beef ban

From Mr David Sunderland

Sir, Seemingly the sole body that would appear to be interested in the beef debacle only on public health grounds is the Commission in Brussels (reports and leading article, May 22).

Nothing has convinced me more of the supranational benefits of EU membership than the present impasse. If the real issue is one of confidence, how can anybody have faith in our ability to enforce controls when in recent weeks we and our European friends have read about thousands of HIV blood tests having to be redone, forensic science tests being unreliable and beef with proscribed parts reaching the butchers' shops even now.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SUNDERLAND,
Four Old Barns,
Habberley, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
May 22.

From Mr Peter Goodford

Sir, My understanding is that BSE was first detected in this country some years ago, that the British Government acted very responsibly and set up a major research effort to study it, and that after an expenditure of some millions of pounds a few cases of human disease have been found which may be related to BSE in cattle.

So far as I am aware the rest of Europe has not made a similar research effort, and it is therefore wrong for them to conclude that BSE is an exclusively British problem. In fact they do not know the position in their own countries.

The Community should either ban all beef products until each country has carried out appropriate research or accept that the low incidence of human symptoms is not cause for serious concern. Britain should not be penalised for being the first to study the problem.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. GOODFORD,
The Old Vicarage,
Ascott under Wychwood,
Oxfordshire.

From Mr Jeffrey Green

Sir, I have no doubt that the number of Britons killed each year by German cars far exceeds the number of Germans killed annually by British cows. Surely we should be seeking the destruction of German cars and not British cows?

Yours faithfully,
JEFFREY GREEN,
88 Gleneldon Road, SW16.
May 22.

From Dr Douglas Justins

Sir, If Britain does leave the EU she should re-establish strong, preferential trade links with all her former colonies, many of which were spurned when Britain first wooed Europe. There would be mutual financial advantages, so Commonwealth might be a good name for the group.

Yours etc,
DOUGLAS JUSTINS,
59 Vineyard Hill Road, SW19.
May 22.

From Mr Myles Glover

Sir, Does not the Prime Minister's new stance over British exports of beef to Europe conflict with his stance in opposing negotiation under duress with Sinn Fein/IRA over the future of Northern Ireland?

Yours truly,
MYLES GLOVER,
Buckhall Farm,
Bethersden, Ashford, Kent.
May 22.

From Mrs Maureen Harkavy

Sir, Has "bully-beef" now taken on a new meaning?

Yours faithfully,
MAUREEN HARKAVY,
The Poplars, Grange Lane,
Alvechurch, Worcestershire.
May 22.

Blow to food makers

From the Editor of
Frozen and Chilled Foods

Sir, Farmers and slaughterhouse owners are not the only ones suffering from the BSE crisis (reports, May 22).

British food manufacturers have been scoring remarkable export successes prior to this latest furore. In the six months to June 1995 exports of food and drink increased by 13 per cent, £550 million up on 1994, and a sizeable percentage of those exports represents manufactured products containing beef: pies, pastries, ready meals, sausages, burgers and more.

Britain leads Europe in the manufacture of convenience foods. Our food products are excellent, but manufacturers are naturally dependent on assurances of quality from the suppliers of their raw material. The question mark now hanging over British beef has dealt the British food industry a severe blow at precisely the time when it is beginning to be recognised as a serious force by its continental competition.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL MURRAY,
Editor,
Frozen and Chilled Foods,
Argus Business Publications,
Queensway House,
2 Queensway, Redhill, Surrey.
May 22.

Cogent reasons for opposing the enlargement of Nato

From Field Marshal Lord Carver

Sir, I support wholeheartedly the views expressed by Sir John Killick in his letter of May 16 about the enlargement of Nato, and would add a further reason for opposing it. Unless Nato changes fundamentally, new members would be encouraged to model their armed forces on the American, which are basically designed for high-intensity warfare.

Such forces would inevitably be seen as a potential threat to their neighbours, particularly if they were backed by American nuclear support. That is the very opposite of what the security of central and eastern Europe needs. Countries in that area should be encouraged, as the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) has been trying to do, to develop agreements and confidence-building measures with their neighbours.

The future of the North Atlantic Alliance lies not in expanding its military organisation, Nato, on its existing pattern, but in a return to the original concept, at least as then seen by the US, of an alliance in which the US and Canada gave general support (with emphasis at that time on nuclear weapons) to a Western European defence organisation.

The alliance needs to address itself to a far more radical reorganisation than it contemplates at present, a balanced relationship between the US and Canada on the one hand and an enlarged European Union on the other. The latter should establish a more or less integrated core defence organisation, which must at least include Britain, France and Germany, to cover arms procurement, common training and operating procedures and the capability to command in operations their own forces and those of any members of the Union/Alliance who may wish to take part.

Those who do not join permanently the integrated core would exercise national command of their forces unless participating in such an operation. If the US is taking part it should be accepted that it will exercise overall command, as it has always done in the past and would in reality have done in any Nato operation. The forum for discussion between the Alliance (and its members) and other countries of Europe should be the OSCE, which should receive greater support and encouragement than it does now.

A European security organisation of this nature should arouse no fears in the minds of the Russians, who might then be more inclined to make progress with the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start).

Yours truly,
CARVER,
House of Lords.
May 16.

From Professor Sir Michael Howard

Sir, Like Sir John Killick, I have deep reservations about the extension of Nato to include the Visegrad Four. The fact that Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia want to join is no more a sufficient reason for admitting them than the wish of Russia that they should not would be a sufficient reason for keeping them out.

As Sir John argues, their admission would do nothing to enhance the security of Nato's existing members, but would, by further complicating its decision-making process, do much to degrade it. Neither would membership enhance the security of the Visegrad Four. Their problems are social and economic rather than military and would be better addressed through membership of the European Union than of a military alliance to meet a threat that does not yet exist.

Does not *yet* exist. But if Nato were to be extended eastward we would see the beginning of a familiar pattern of escalation. Russia, seeing herself threatened by her traditional enemies, would once again set about establishing her dominance over Ukraine, Belorus, and probably the Baltic states as well.

Nato would have to respond by improving its military ties with the Visegrad states and perhaps offering guarantees in the Baltic, which the Russians could only see as further threats to their own security. Within a few years we would be back to a military confrontation in which the security of the Visegrad states would really be threatened, and the whole merry-go-round would begin again.

Our object surely is to create a security system embracing Russia as well as the nations of western and central Europe, and the security of the latter cannot be purchased by neglecting the fears of the former. The luminaries who attended the Prague conference (reports, May 11, 13) obviously meant well, but they were dangerously short-sighted. One does not avoid the mistakes of the past by repeating them.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HOWARD,
The Old Farm,
Eastbury, Hungerford, Berkshire.
May 19.

From Admiral of the Fleet
Lord Hill-Norton

Sir, I hope that the wise words of Sir John Killick will give those responsible in Whitehall and Westminster reason to review what seem to be present policies about Nato "enlargement", which can lead only to disaster.

Who in the world, I wonder, really wants to get into the position that when a border punch-up occurs in eastern Hungary, or Poland, or Austria, Saceur (Supreme Allied Commander Europe) has to hurry to the rescue? And if he were crazy enough to do so, may we expect Herr Kohl to order the Bundeswehr to leap into the breach, as they so conspicuously didn't in Yugoslavia?

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
HILL-NORTON
(Chairman, Nato Military
Committee, 1974-77),
House of Lords.

Alpha courses and Toronto blessing as aids to faith

From Mr Richard Carter

Sir, Mrs Helen Walker (letter, May 15) states that on her weekend Alpha course "a few fellow members were visited by the Holy Spirit". It is my earnest hope (and in faith I am prepared to believe it) that everyone on that day may have received His visitation. Some of the teaching of the Alpha course material may too easily give the false impression that the only definitive evidence of the Holy Spirit's visitation in a person is the manifestation of supernatural signs, particularly the gift of tongues.

Some Christians today, in common with some of our Lord's hearers during His ministry, are so concerned with instant evidence that they neglect to wait to see the fruit of the Spirit, which in New Testament teaching is the only sure sign that a person is truly born again by the Spirit's visitation.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. F. CARTER,
32 The Poles,
Upchurch, Sittingbourne, Kent.
May 15.

From the Reverend Jonathan Kerry

Sir, Your report (May 18) on the Methodist Church's response to the Toronto blessing, and in particular its headline, "Methodists fear Toronto blessing may be a curse", do less than justice to the balance of views contained in our working party's report. The word "curse" does not appear in our report; indeed, although we do express cautions and recognise that there have been abuses and some cases of distress, on balance the view is much more favourable.

The clear majority of our almost 300 respondents who have had direct experience of this phenomenon speak in positive terms. Undoubtedly many people have been led to a greater awareness of God. Although some of the manifestations (falling to the ground, laughing and weeping, animal-like noises) may strike an observer as bizarre, they have often led on to lives of deeper Christian love in action.

The Toronto blessing is not for everyone, and is but one part of the diversity of Christian spirituality and the outward forms thereof. However, we welcome the experiences and insights which its recipients bring to the Church, whilst adhering to the principles of considered biblical reflection and rejecting any form of spiritual "one-upmanship", from whatever direction.

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN KERRY (Convener,
Methodist Church Working Party
on the Toronto Blessing),
13 Sale Hill,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
May 18.

From the Reverend William B. G. Mather

Sir, At our deanery confirmation service last week 20 out of the 22 candidates came from one church. I believe that the Alpha course was largely responsible for such a high response.

Yours sincerely,
W. B. G. MATHER,
The Vicarage,
Church Street, Littleover, Derby.
May 15.

From the Reverend Dave Martin

Sir, Travelling the country regularly, my personal, anecdotal evidence would be that most Methodist churches are untouched by, or widely indifferent to the Toronto blessing. Where this spiritual refreshing is taking place there are, of course, some horror stories. However, there are many and more horrific stories from churches that are stagnant and ailing.

More important, there are countless situations that have seen healing and renewal and quiet Christian commitment and growth, which are testimony to what the blessing is really about.

Most sincerely yours,
DAVE MARTIN
(Secretary, Home Mission Division),
The Methodist Church,
1 Central Buildings,
Westminster, SW1.

Rorke's Drift VCs

From Dr Michael Allwood

Sir, Your report of May 14 that a VC won in the legendary defence of Rorke's Drift is likely to break the world record when it goes on sale next month perpetuates a myth.

Robert Jones — a courageous boy from Raglan, in Monmouthshire — did not join the South Wales Borderers at the age of 18 as stated. The regiment which he joined, and which won seven of the 11 VCs at Rorke's Drift, was an English county regiment, the 24th Regiment of Foot (2nd Warwickshire Regiment).

It had been affiliated to the county of Warwickshire since 1782, but in 1881, two years after Rorke's Drift, a redistribution of regiments to aid recruiting resulted in its becoming the South Wales Borderers.

It is right that Gwent should take pride in the gallantry of the South Wales Borderers. It is sad that in Warwickshire there is now virtually no monument to what was for 99 years one of its two county regiments.

Five of the seven men from the 24th Regiment of Foot who were awarded the VC at Rorke's Drift were Englishmen.

Writing in the *Strand Magazine* of March 1891 Jones himself wrote: "my thought was only to fight as an English soldier ought to fight for his most gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria, and for the benefit of old England."

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ALLWOOD,
Ridge Barn,
Ufton Fields,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.
May 14.

Business letters, page 29
Sports letters, page 42

Rail privatisation

From Mr Christopher Daws

Sir, What advice should be given to a Martian with around £2 billion to spend on a railway? He could buy Railtrack — 10,000 miles of track and buildings covering the kingdom — admittedly secondhand and a bit tatty. Or he could buy Crossrail — six miles of brand new track in a tunnel between the City and Paddington.

What sort of economic system is it which puts the same price on these two utterly different propositions? I fear my Martian will look for a more rational planet for his investment.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER DAWS,
Sheepscombe House,
Jacks Green, Sheepscombe,
Stroud, Gloucestershire.
May 21.

Salt in the wounds?

From Mr Mark Cripps

Sir, All this talk from the water companies about "repairing leakages" and "making good the distribution of infrastructure" avoids the obvious solution.

We are an island nation. In addition to all of the necessary repair work, why don't the water utilities do the decent thing and invest in a network of desalination plants?

These could be powered by the excess heat generated by power stations (most are on the coast); they would create a highly marketable byproduct (sea salt); and not even Britain has a seawater drought.

Yours faithfully,
MARK CRIPPS,
56 Riverview Grove,
Chiswick, W4.
May 22.

Dear Database . . .

From Mr Gerald Owen, QC

Sir, Judge Main (letter, May 15) laments the use of the computer database for address lists. He was lucky to retain his title.

I have received letters addressed to Mr Q. C. Owen and, recently, Mr Owen Kewsey.

Yours etc,
GERALD OWEN,
11 Wellington House,
Eton Road, NW3.
May 22.

From Mr David Tang

Sir, In Chinese, our "alphabetical" order is determined by the number of strokes of the character. Fortuitously, because of the communist simplification of many of the characters, my surname (same as Deng Xiao-Ping) has had its strokes reduced from 14 to four.

Theoretically, I now move in higher circles, although in practice my compatriots in China only observe the importance of official rank rather than the number of strokes; and I still languish towards the bottom.

In any event, the Chinese newspapers are not sufficiently bourgeois to offer their readers the opportunity to announce their marriages and engagements. That was why, when I became engaged in Tibet recently, I had to resort to a London newspaper rather than the *Lhasa Daily*.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID TANG (Chairman),
D. W. C. Tang Development Ltd,
1112 Jardine House,
Central, Hong Kong.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 22: The Queen this morning arrived at Bristol Filton Airfield and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire (Mr Henry Elwes).

Her Majesty, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, drove to Beachley Barracks, Chepstow, and was received by the Colonel (Major General Morgan Llewellyn).

The 1st Battalion, on parade, received The Queen with a Royal Salute, after which Her Majesty inspected the parade and presented a new Queen's Colour and Regimental Colour.

After the presentation The Queen was graciously pleased to address the parade, and the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant Colonel Jonathon Riley) replied.

Her Majesty later met past and present members of the Regiment and their families, and honoured the Colonel with her presence at Luncheon.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, today attended Receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have achieved the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, this afternoon gave a Luncheon and chaired a Meeting of the Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this evening gave a Reception for Voluntary Services Overseas at Buckingham Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 22: The Prince Edward this evening attended the Sports Ball at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London W1.

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
May 22: The Princess Royal, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, this morning attended a business session of the General Assembly.

Her Royal Highness later visited the Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.

The Princess Royal this afternoon gave a Luncheon at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Her Royal Highness, on behalf of The Queen, later held an Investiture at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

The Princess Royal this evening held a Dinner at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 22: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Centrepoint, this morning received Mr Victor Adebowale (Chief Executive).

YORK HOUSE
May 22: The Duchess of Kent this morning opened the new Residential House at St Piers School, St Piers Lane, Lingfield, Surrey, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey (Mr Richard Thornton).

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 22: Princess Alexandra today visited Rochdale and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester (Colonel John Timmins).

Her Royal Highness visited the Floyd Unit of the Birch Hill Hospital, Rochdale, and later visited Spotland County Primary School, Edmund Street, Rochdale.

Princess Alexandra, Patron of Anchor Trust, subsequently opened the Pendleton Croft retirement housing scheme at Hind Hill Street, Heywood, Rochdale.

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Salford University, Greater Manchester, at 9.35; will visit Heathlands, Jewish Homes for the Aged, Prestwich, Bury, Lancashire, at 2.25, and, as honorary life member, will attend the 50th anniversary luncheon of the Manchester Naval Officers' Association at Manchester Town Hall at noon.

The Princess Royal, as Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, will visit The Netherbow Centre, 43 High Streeet, Edinburgh, at 11.15; will visit Belmont Castle, Meigle, at 1.50; will visit Mid Craigie Parish Church project, Longtown Terrace, Dundee, at 2.55; will visit Schools Out Project, After School Care Association, Broughty Ferry East Church, 370 Queen Street, Dundee, at 3.40; will view a Beating Retreat by pupils of Scottish schools, at 6.00; and will attend a reception at the Palace of Holyroodhouse at 6.45.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Wymondham Bridewell, Norwich Road, Wymondham, at 11.45; *and, as Grand Prior of the Order* of St John, will attend a training demonstration at Snetterton Race Circuit, Norfolk, at 2.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit RAF Cranwell, Lincolnshire, at 11.00.

Flight-Lieutenant Peter Phillips

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Flight-Lieutenant Peter Phillips, former display and test pilot, will be held at St Michael's, Cornhill, EC3, on Thursday, June 20, at noon.

Twyford School

The Governors of Twyford School, Winchester, have appointed Mr Philip Fawkes, at present Headmaster of Lathallan Preparatory School, Angus, as Headmaster, to succeed Mr Richard Gould who is retiring. The appointment will take effect from January 1997.

Today's birthdays

Sir Kenneth Allen, engineer, 89; Sir David Barran, former chairman, Midland Bank, 84; Mr Rubens Barrichello, racing driver, 24; Mrs J.J. d'A. Campbell, Mistress, Girton College, Cambridge, 61; Sir Matthew Campbell, civil servant, 89; Sir Hugh Casson, CH, architect, 86; Miss Joan Collins, actress, 63; Mr Denis Compton, cricketer, 78; Sir Samuel Curran, former Vice-Chancellor, Strathclyde University, 84; Mr Nigel Davenport, actor, 68; the Very Rev J. H. Drury, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, 60; Dr Walter Eltis, economist, 63; Mr G.M. Gill, former chief cashier, Bank of England, 62; Mr Marius Goring, actor, 84; Lord Grenfell, 61; Viscount Hawarden, 35; Mr Graeme Hick, cricketer, 30; Mr Anatoly Karpov, chess player, 45; Sir Peter Kenilorea, former Prime Minister, Solomon Islands, 53; Sir James Lester, MP, 64; Sir John Lyons, Master, Trinity Hall, Cambridge, 64; Mr Humphrey Lyttelton, jazz musician, 75.

Mr Michael McCrum, former Master, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 72; Lady Olga Maitland, MP, 52; the Earl of Mount Charles, 45; Mr John Newcombe, tennis player, 52; Mr Peter Preston, Editorial Director Guardian Media Group, 58; Mr Robert Sangster, former chairman, Vernons Organization and racehorse owner, 60; Mr John Stevens, MEP, 41; Sir Sanderson Temple, QC, 75; Sir John Titman, former Secretary, Lord Chamberlain's office, 70.

Memorial service

Miss Kaye Webb
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Miss Kaye Webb, children's book publisher, was held on Tuesday at St Martin-in-the-Fields. The Rev Nicholas Holtam officiated.

Mr Robin Bailey, Mr Christopher Fry and Mr John Searle, son, gave readings. Mr John Grigg, Mr George Nicholson, Miss Wendy Toye, Mr Michael Bond and Mr Peter Mayer, Chairman and Chief Executive of the Penguin Group, paid tribute. The Christopher Trevor-Roberts Preparatory School Choir sang during the service. Among others present were:

Miss Kate Searle (daughter), Mr Daniel Searle (grandson), Mrs Eva Webb (sister-in-law), Mr Nicholas Webb, Mrs D Lacey, Mr John Lacey, Mrs Eileen Lacey, Mrs Nina Lacey, Mrs Jill Woodgate, Mr John Lacey, Miss Jean Ingelson, and other members of the family.

The Earl of Drogheda, Mrs John Grigg, Mrs Sue Bond, Mrs Michael Wall, Mr Trevor Glover, Mr and Mrs Jim Rose, Ms Gene Kemp, Mrs Roald Dahl, Mr Malcolm Kelley, Miss Joan Aiken, Mr and Mrs Hilary Rubinstein, Mr James Lee, Miss Jane Kelly, Mr André Deutsch, Mr Robin Hyman, Ms Tanya Moiseiwitsch, Ms Giselle Searle, Ms Helen Cresswell, Mr Bill Hayhurst, Ms Anna Home, Mr J B Coffey, Mr and Mrs Edward Shelock, Mr and Mrs Murray J. Pollinger, Mr L G Shirley and Miss Virginia Snyders, Mr Chris Green, Mr David Wood, Mr and Mrs Edward Blishen, Mrs Wendy Trewin, Mr and Mrs Anthony Crosse, Mr Raymond Briggs, Ms Judy Taylor, Mr John Seaton, Mr Edward Curness, Mr Boris Hunter, Ms Stephanie Nettell.

Miss Philippa Pearce, Mr Gervase Farjeon, Mr John Welch, Mr and Mrs Robin Sandberg, Mrs D Bagshawe, Miss Doris Asher, Mrs Helen Paiba, Ms Joanna Goldsworthy, Mrs Charles Clark, Dr Margaret Meek, Dr Amicia Melland, Mrs Sue Suschitzky, Miss Catherine Ashmore, Mrs Erna Naughton, Ms Lucia Graves, Mr Paul Sidey, Mr Patrick Wright, Ms Dotti Irving, Mr and Mrs John Panton, Mrs Virginia de Vaal, Mr Alexander Grigg, Mr Jack Hedley, Mr and Mrs Clive King, Mr David Blanch, Mrs Roma Schapiro, Mrs Naomi Lewis, Mrs Philippa Milnes-Smith, Ms Caroline Ansell.

Mr Peter Carson with Mr Tony Lacey and Mrs Sally Floyer (Penguin Books); Mr David Gadsby (A & C Black), Miss Janice Thomson (Faber & Faber), Mr Bruce Hunter (David Higham Associates) Mrs Pam Royds (Scholastic Children's Books), Mrs Lesley Peat (Books for Students), Mrs Delia Huddy (Julian MacRae Books), Miss Janetta Otter-Barry (Frances Lincoln), Mrs Diana Shine (Society of Authors), Miss Mary Knowles (Library Association), Mr Graham Greene (also representing The Publishers Association), Mr John Coldstream (The Daily Telegraph), Mrs Lisa Parkes (Walton Theatre Collection), Miss Dot Wooder, (Unicorn Arts Theatre), and Mr Stanley Botes (Botes Librair).

Institution of Mechanical Engineers

At an Ordinary Meeting of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) on Wednesday, May 22, 1996, Professor R.W.E. Shannon, BSc, PhD, FEng, HonDSc, FIMechE, HonFIGasE, FINBDT, MRAeS, gave his inaugural address as the Institution's 111th President. His paper "Engineering Wealth" was preceded by the induction of Sir John Fairclough into Honorary Fellowship.

Canning House

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, after his recent visit to Latin America, addressed the Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Council last night at Canning House. The Earl of Limerick, president, was the host. The Ambassadors of Latin American countries and Portugal were among the guests.

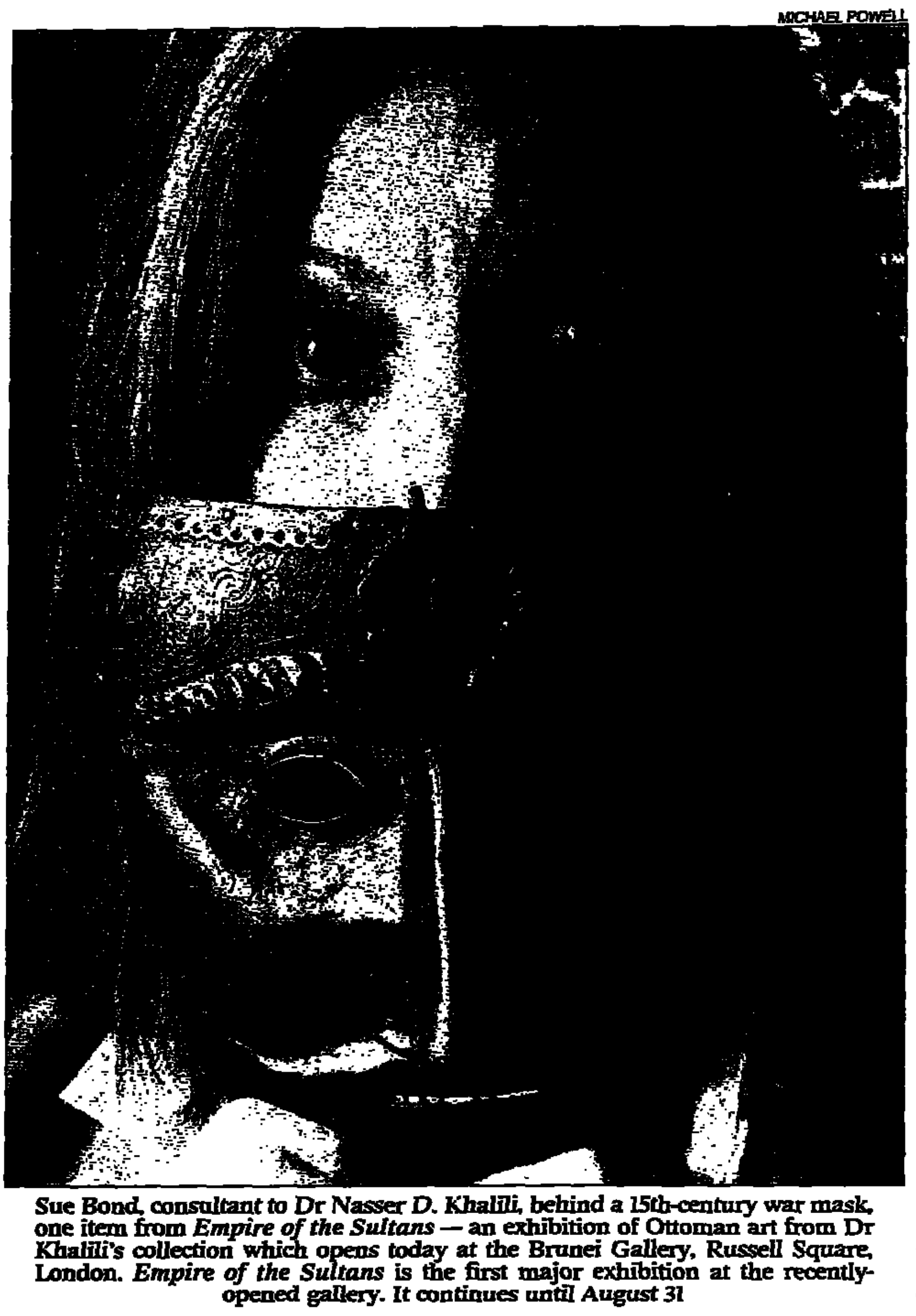
Reunion

The 'Ox and Cow'
The Oxford and County Business (Secretarial) College will be holding a Diamond Jubilee Reunion, in Oxford, on Saturday, October 19, 1996. We should be delighted to hear from ex-students and teachers who would like to attend and/or who would like to join our alumni network. Please contact Rosemary Waterhouse on 01865 310100.

Duke of Kent

The Duke of Kent has been pleased to accept reappointment as a Trustee of the Science Museum.

MICHAEL POWELL



Sue Bond, consultant to Dr Nasser D. Khalili, behind a 15th-century war mask, one item from *Empire of the Sultans* — an exhibition of Ottoman art from Dr Khalili's collection which opens today at the Brunei Gallery, Russell Square, London. *Empire of the Sultans* is the first major exhibition at the recently-opened gallery. It continues until August 31

School announcements

Haileybury

The following awards have been made:

Academic
Major Scholarships: A.S. Clipper, St Martin's, Northwood; A.J.T. Pilgrim, Heath Mount School, Watton-at-Stone.
Scholarships: A.R. Coward, Thorpe House School, Gerrards Cross; W.D.J. Henderson, Aldwickbury School, Wheathampstead; A. Rowland, Keble School, Winchmore Hill.
The Russell Dore Scholarship: R.N.R. Hunt, St Faith's School, Cambridge.
All Rounder Scholarships: J.R.A. Collier, Heath Mount School, Watton-at-Stone; J.P. Cusack, St Edmunds College, Ware; A.C.E. Hawkins, Heath Mount School, Watton-at-Stone; C.A. Moss, Duncombe School, Hertford and Haileybury Lower School; A.J.C. Neale, Heath Mount School, Watton-at-Stone; R.M. Randall, Westminster Abbey Choir School; J.J.W. Sheridan, Old Buckenham Hall School, Ipswich; R.J. Stirling, Lochinver House School, Potters Bar; J.M. Walker, Keble School, Winchmore Hill; G.F.T. Warren, Holmwood House School, Colchester.
Sixth Form Major Academic Scholarship: N.S. Best, Roundwood Park School, Harpenden.
Sixth Form Academic Scholarships: Hannah L. Gordon, St Albans High School for Girls; Petrova Y.W. Ings, St Nicholas School, Old Harlow; Maliha Kamal, City of London School for Girls; R.R.C. Payne, Dartford Grammar School; Clare J. Tregoning, Berkhamsted School for Girls.
Sixth Form All Rounder Scholarships: Libby A.B. Burley, Sutton High School; Kirsty A. Dottridge, Uplands Community College, Wadhurst; R.D. Gissane, Beaumont School, St Albans; Claire N.C. Maller, St Albans High School for Girls.
Lower School Scholarship: R.A. Nash, Tower JMI School, Ware.
Music
Major Scholarship: A.J. Rowland, Keble School, Winchmore Hill.
Scholarship: A.S. Clipper, St Martin's School, Northwood.
Sixth Form Music Scholarship: E. Louise McIntyre, St Margaret's School, Hampstead.
Art
Major Scholarships: D.J. Roche, Heath Mount School, Watton-at-Stone; N.A. Woodward, Heath Mount School, Watton-at-Stone
Sixth Form Art Scholarship: Annwen C. Joffe, The King's School, Ely.

Oundle School

Scholarships 1996
Sixth Form Scholarship
Harry Davidson, Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith; Miranda Harrison, Oxford High School.
Academic Scholarship - Oundle
Nicholas Christie, The Beacon, Amersham; William Charlton, Colet Court, Barnes, London; Charles Dale, Sanderson House (formerly Packwood Haugh, Ruyton XI Towns); Amelia Elborne, Winchester House, Brackley; James Hamer-Morton, Witham Hall, Bourne; Robert Hansen, Edge Grove, Aldenham; Olivia Heal, Beeston Hall, West Runton; Alexandra Jackson, Moreton Hall, Bury St Edmunds; Ross Lavery, Holmewood House, Langton Green; Annabel Lewis, Wyatt House (formerly Woodlands Prep, Brentwood); James Lewis, Edge Grove, Aldenham; Paul Monk, Haileybury Junior, Windsor; Timothy Oliver, Orwell Park, Nacton, Ipswich; Robert Posgate, The Beacon, Amersham; James Wilson, Winchester House, Brackley.
Continuation Scholarship confirmed
James Gould, Witham Hall, Bourne; Harry Kinmonth, The Berrystead (formerly St Faith's, Cambridge); Lucinda Roberts-Holmes, Godstowe Prep, High Wycombe.
Academic Scholarship - Laxton
Exhibition: Joanna Murray, Tanglin Trust School, Singapore. Lower Sixth: Elaine Harwood, Stamford High School for Girls; Ewan Last, Stamford School; Susanna Summers, Stamford High School for Girls. Music Scholarship: Catherine Dowman, Downe House School.
Conradi Scholarship
Sam Stoop, Orwell Park, Nacton, Ipswich.
Stainforth Scholarship
William Campbell Clause, Pembroke, Gilgil, Kenya.
General Scholarship
Katy Bingham, Nevill Holt, Market Harborough; Daniele Bonanno, Pembroke, Gilgil, Kenya; Ashley Brown, Spratton Hall, Northampton; Nicholas Carnell, Ranby House, Retford.
Continuation Scholarship
Isobel Arthur, Bilton Grange, Dunchurch; Ruth Brewster, St Hugh's, Woodhall Spa; Asha Burchett, Glebe House, Hunstanton; Isabel Burnham, Windlesham House, Pulborough; Nicholas Fishwick, St Faith's, Cambridge; Robert Hodgkinson, Old Buckenham Hall, Ipswich; Thomas Jeffreys, Caldicott, Farnham Royal; James Marsh, Thorpe House, Gerrards Cross; Gregory Pearson, Taverham Hall, Norwich; Lucy Wordley, S Anselm's, Bakewell.
Junior Scholarship
Katherine Holland, Culford School, Bury St Edmunds; Anna Wheeler, South Lee School, Bury St Edmunds.
Berrystead General Scholarship
Nicholas Proffitt, Heathlands Prep, Grantham.
Music Scholarship
Olivia Rowlands, Salisbury Cathedral School; Matthew Sadie, Trevor-Roberts, London; Helen Michaelides, The Berrystead (formerly Loughborough Lower School); Christopher Beeby, Grosvenor School, Nottingham.
Art Scholarship
Emily Burnham, Windlesham House, Washington, Pulborough; Josh Elliot, Packwood Haugh, Ruyton XI Towns; Laura Holmes, The Berrystead.
Design & Technology
Max Hunt, Trevor-Roberts, London; David Lay, Orwell Park, Nacton, Ipswich; Edward Loades, Bilton Grange, Dunchurch.

Shrewsbury School

Scholarships 1996
The following Scholarships and Exhibitions have been awarded:
Butler Scholarships: D.W. Mott, Kingsland Grange; C. Neubauer, Kingsland Grange; A.J.M. Newman, Prestfelde.
Kennedy Scholarships: D. Bessant, Prestfelde; J.A. Fermont, Lockers Park; R. Forrest, Bilton Grange; W.G.F. Krupski, Yarlet School; M.B. Whitworth, Packwood Haugh.
Moss Scholarships: S.A.W. Black, Abberley Hall; N.R. Haddaway, Kingsland Grange.
Allington Exhibitions: E.G. Baillie, Yarlet School; N.P. Beazley, Polwhele House; J.C.P. Dennis, Packwood Haugh; S.P. Hunka, Arnold Lodge School; P.W.C. Nichols, The Ryleys; D.M. Rowley, Prestfelde; P.J.M. Smith, Lichfield Cathedral School.
Art Scholarship: E.G. Baillie, Yarlet School.
Music Scholarships: P.J.M. Smith, Lichfield Cathedral School; J.A.R. Walton, Lichfield Cathedral School; A.J.M. Newman, Prestfelde; S.J. Hudson, Wells Cathedral School; T.J. Buxton, St Gerard's School Trust, Bangor.
Sixth Form Scholarships: A.F. Bell, Meole Brace School, Shrewsbury; T.J. Buxton, St Gerard's School Trust, Bangor.

Winchester College

Winchester College announces the 1996 Roll of Scholars and Exhibitioners as follows:

Scholarships: 1 Thomas William Brown, The Pilgrims' School, Winchester; 2 (Exhibition) George Benet Bradt, St Paul's Preparatory School, London SW13; 3 William Arthur Llewelyn Jessop, The Pilgrims' School, Winchester; 4 Paul Thomas Tregear, Milbourne Lodge School, Esher; 5 Charles Andrew Collicutt, West Hill Park School, Titchfield; 6 (Exhibition) Adam Paul Gamsa, Winchester College and Durlston Court, Barton-on-Sea; 7 Nicholas Llbert Oury, Rokeby School, Kingston-upon-Thames; 8 Oliver George William Bainbridge, St Hugh's School, Faringdon, Oxon; 9 (Exhibition) Donald Man Lap Tse, Winchester College and La Salle College, Hong Kong; 10 Eugenio-Maria Donadoni, Eagle House School, Sandhurst; 11 Tobias William Stock, The Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone; 12 George Alexander Chilton Howe, Cumnor House School, Danehill, Sussex; 13 David Trevor Jones, Yateley Manor Preparatory School, Camberley; 14 Frank Gareth Gordon Miles, Hordle House School, Milford-on-Sea; 15 Thomas William Gatehouse Faulkner, Dulwich College Preparatory School, SE21; 16 Samuel John Pople, The Burgate School, Fordingbridge; 17 James Lee Kyenson Fletcher, West Hill Park School, Titchfield; 18 Alastair James Bulger, Westbourne House School, Shopwyke, Sussex; 19 (Exhibition) Alastair Lionel George Tolley, The Pilgrims' School, Winchester.

Numbers 2, 6, 9, 19 placed Exhibition first in their order of preference.

Dinners

HM Lord High Commissioner
The Princess Royal, Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, gave a dinner last night at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Among those present were:
Vice-Admiral Sir James and Lady Weatherall, Professor Sir Stewart and Lady Sutherland, Mr and Mrs Chris Andrews, Mr and Mrs Gilbert Archer, Mr Alexander Bruce, Dr John Caldwell, Mrs Erica Downie, Professor and Mrs Derek Ellwood, the Rev Thomas and Mrs McWilliam, Dr A W Pike, Mr and Mrs Mark Pyper, Mr and Mrs David Prichard and Professor and Mrs Andrew Rutherford.

The Society of Merchants Trading to the Continent
The Right Hon William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, was guest of honour at a dinner of the Society of Merchants Trading to the Continent held last night at Trinity House, Tower Hill. Mr Rupert Hambro presided.

Foundation for Science and Technology
Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation of Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. Dr Craig Baker, Mr John Newing, Mr Andrew Foster and Mr Jonathan Bamford were the speakers.

Gray's Inn
The Treasurer of Gray's Inn, Mr Conrad Dehn, QC, and the Masters of the Bench gave a dinner in Hall in honour of the Royal National Theatre on Tuesday night, it being Grand Day of Easter Term. Among those present were:
Sir Christopher Hogg, Mr Richard Eyre, Mr Trevor Nunn, Mr Peter Shaffer, Mr John Caird, Mr Stephen Daldry, Mr Sean Mathias, Miss Diane Trevis, Mr Matthew Warchus, Miss Deborah Warner, Ms Genista McIntosh, Mrs Conrad Dehn, Canon Eric James (preacher), Mr David Machin, (under-treasurer) and Miss Margaret Chadderton (deputy under-treasurer, students).

Service dinner

The Royal Irish Regiment
Colonel J.D. Sankey, Regimental Colonel, The Royal Irish Regiment, presided at a Colonel-in-Chief's Dining Club dinner held last night in Portadown.

Luncheons

HM Lord High Commissioner
The Princess Royal, Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, gave a luncheon yesterday at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Among those present were:
The Earl of Airlie, KT, and the Countess of Airlie, Sir Iain and Lady Margaret Tennant, Mr and Mrs Niall Campbell, the Rev Murray and Mrs Chalmers, Professor T Coppock, Mr and Mrs Alex Gordon Duff, Mr and Mrs James Hepburne Scott, Mr and Mrs John Jameson, Mr and Mrs Peter Lederer and Professor and Mrs Richard Whitfield.

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of Mr Habib Ben Yahia, Tunisian Foreign Minister.

HM Government
Mr Jeremy Hanley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Faisal Husseini, Chief Palestinian Representative in Jerusalem and Head of Palestinian Negotiating Team for the Multilateral Track of the Peace Process.

Reception

Baroness Park of Monmouth
Baroness Park of Monmouth gave a reception yesterday at the House of Lords in honour of Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond, Founder and Director of the Refugee Studies Programme, Oxford University.

Latest wills

The Most Rev Derek John Harford Worlock, CH, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, left net estate valued between £70,000 and £100,000.

Mr Peter William Jeremy Huggins, of London SW4, Jeremy Brett, the actor, known for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes on television, left estate valued at £634,744 net

He left £3,000 to his fan club known as "The Regulars", with the wish it be divided equally between those persons who are members at his death.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.A. Arnold and Miss E.L. Pennington
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Arnold, of Linton, Herefordshire, and Emma, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Pennington, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr A.R. Bourne and Miss J.A. Hone
Mr and Mrs R. Hone, of South Benfleet, and Mr and Mrs A. Bourne, of Cheltenham, are delighted to announce that the marriage of Julie and Alex will take place on Sunday, May 26, at St Nicholas Parish Church, Church Road, Chiswick, at 1pm. All friends welcome at the Church.

Mr D.J.P. Hart and Miss J.A. Fleming
The engagement is announced between David, second son of Mr and Mrs John F. Hart, of Whitecraigs, Glasgow, and Jackie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Fleming, of Singapore.

Mr J.H.S. Maclean and Miss C.G.M. Myddelton
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of the Revd and Mrs Kenneth Maclean, of Bicton, Shropshire, and Claerwen, daughter of Mr Hugh Myddelton and the Hon Mrs Sarah Myddelton, of London.

Mr A.D. MacLellan and Mrs A.G. Morrison
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs Donald MacLellan, of Symington, Ayrshire, and Dominique, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Martens, of The Haven, West Sussex.

Mr D. Wagner and Miss S. Newall
Mr Robert Newall and Mrs Harriet Frances Newall are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Susie, to Dan, younger son of Mr John Wagner and Mrs Yaffa Wagner.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Elias Ashmole, antiquary, Lichfield, 1617; Carolus Linneaus, botanist, South Rashult, Sweden, 1707; Franz Mesmer, physician, pioneer of hypnotism, Weil, Germany, 1734; Sir Charles Barry, architect, London, 1795; Douglas Fairbanks, senior, Denver, Colorado, 1883.

DEATHS: Girolamo Savonarola, preacher, burnt at the stake, Florence, 1498; William Kidd, (Captain Kidd), pirate, hanged, London, 1701; John Wood, architect and town planner, Bath, 1754; Henrik Ibsen, dramatist, Norway, 1906; John D. Rockefeller, oil magnate and philanthropist, Ormond Beach, Florida, 1937.

King Henry VIII divorced Catherine of Aragon to marry Anne Boleyn, 1533.

The North West Mounted Police, later the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, were formed, Canada, 1873.

The French crown jewels went on sale, raising 6 million francs, 1887.

Recorders

The Queen has signified her intention of appointing the following recorders:

Wales and Chester Circuit
Mrs Jane Crowley, Mark Furness, Miss Jane Elizabeth Hayward, Stephen Richards.

North Eastern Circuit
Peter David Babb, Peter Edward Bullock, Gary Burrell, QC, Timothy Clayson, Timothy Hewitt, James Graham Keith Hyland, Simon Jack, C.B. Kealy, Christopher Knox, Keith Stuart Hunter Miller, James Ronald Mitchell, Henry William Prosser, Martin William Rudland.

Parish Clerks' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Parish Clerks' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, the Rev G.L. Blacktop; Upper Warden, Mr O.W.H. Clark; Under Warden, Mr J.D. Hebblethwaite.

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2 Peter 1 : 21 (REB).

BIRTHS

BRIFFA - See Gompertz.

EVANS - On 17th May, to Debbie (Wilson) and Michael, a son, Hugh Frederick Paterson. He looks splendid (just as his mother and his sister Alice do).

EVELEGH - On 16th May, to James and Dorothy (née Quigley), a daughter, Frances Iona.

FREEMAN - On May 18th at The Portland Hospital, to Sue and Andrew, a daughter, Emma Louise, a sister for Joanne.

GEORGE - On May 16th at The Portland Hospital, to Yasmin (née Essani) and Freddie, a son, Harry Karim Edward.

GOMPERTZ - On May 16th, to Patrick and Margaret, a son, Luke, a brother and accomplice for Oliver, Joseph and Evelyn.

HARPER - On May 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Penny and Nick, a daughter, India Courtney, a sister for Alexander.

THE TIMES

BIRTH AND DEATH NOTICES

To place your Birth or Death Notices over the May Bank Holiday period please call during the following times.

Saturday 25th May 9.30am - 12.30pm
Monday 27th May 9.30am - 12.30pm

Tel: 0171 680 6880. Fax: 0171 481 9313

BIRTHS

JONES-WILLIAMS - On Tuesday 21st May 1996, to Lowri Siân (née Williams) and Alister, a daughter, Medi Anastasia, 7lbs 3oz. A sister to Kezia and Benedict.

O'CONNOR - James Matthew at The Portland Hospital was born May 9th 1996 to Fred and Jill O'Connor, a little brother for JT.

POHLMANN - On May 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Renee and David, a handsome son, Scott Alan, a brother for William and Janell.

SKLAR - On May 15th at 20.38 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria (née Little) and Nicholas, a wonderful beautiful son, Joshua Benjamin 6lbs 14oz.

SMALL - On 19th May at The Portland Hospital, to Lindsey (née Hammond) and David, a daughter, Matilda Anna Charlotte, a sister for Joshua.

STAMFORD - On 16th May at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Sarah and Martin, the gift of William, a brother for Freddie. Thanks again to the Silver Star team.

STRATHCLYDE - On May 18th, to Jane (née Skinner) and Thomas, a daughter, sister to Elizabeth.

BIRTHS

THOMASSON - On May 19th, to Virginia and Sam, a daughter, Cicely.

TILBURY - Karen and Graham are happy to announce the birth of their first son, Aidan Deri, on 20th May 1996.

WINTER - On May 9th, to Esther (née Bello Garcia) and Richard, a son, David Joseph.

DEATHS

BARNARDO - On Sunday May 19th 1996, Kathleen, aged 86 years. Dear wife of the late Dr. Eric Barnardo, mother of David, Pam, Angela, Cilla and the late Colin, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private burial. Thanksgiving Service at Argyle Chapel, Argyle Road, Reading on Wednesday 12th June at 2.30 pm to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired in her memory to Barnardos, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.

CARELESS - Beatrice Dellis (née Hulton-Harrop). On May 20th 1996 peacefully at home, beloved wife of the late Colonel William Paget Careless and much loved mother of Bronwen. Funeral Service at St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, on Tuesday June 4th at 12.15 pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request please. Donations if wished to The Army Benevolent Fund and The Injured Jockey's Fund. Enquiries tel: (01743) 344646.

DEATHS

COCHRANE - Molly Irene peacefully at home aged 96 years, widow of Captain J.F. Cochrane D.S.C., R.N., much loved mother of Bill Corry and the late Anne and Susan, adored gran and great-gran to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren by whom she will be sadly missed. Funeral Service at St Bartholomew's Church, Bow, Devon, on Tuesday May 28th at 11 am followed by committal at Devon and Exeter Crematorium at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations in lieu for The Royal British Legion may be sent to the Funeral Directors C.J. Slear & Son, Homefield, Station Road, Bow, nr. Crediton, Devon EX17 6HU. Barbados papers please copy.

CREAGH - Mary, died peacefully in hospital May 21st. Beloved wife of Liam, much loved mother of Anne, Nuala and Desmond and all her family. Funeral Mass 1pm Friday 24th May at St Edward's Catholic Church, Aylestone Road, Leicester. Family flowers only: donations if desired to CAFOD or Cancer Research c/o Ginns & Gutteridge, Vaughan Way, Leicester.

FARAH - On Tuesday 21st May 1996, Maurice dearly loved husband of Claire, father of Rita, Michel and Paola and their spouses, and grandfather of Michel, Mark and Katya. Will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service will take place at Mar Mitr Church, Achrafieh, Beirut, Lebanon on Friday 24th May 1996. A 40 day Mass will take place on Sunday 30th June 1996 at 12 noon at St Raphaels Church, Portsmouth Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. All are welcome.

DEATHS

FOUNTAIN - On May 20th at Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, after an illness borne with characteristic courage, unselfishness and dignity, Jennifer Claire (née Bravery), aged 60. Loving and adored mother of Kim, Laura and Robin, and dearly loved "Grandy" to her five grandchildren. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at Holy Trinity Church, Bramley, Surrey on Tuesday 28th May at 3.30pm. Family flowers only, but donations if wished to "B T Cancer Research Trust" c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 25 South Road, Guildford, GU2 6NY.

GRAFTON - On Monday May 20th 1996 peacefully at home, Barry, dearest husband, brother, dad and papa. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving St George's Church, Weald, Sevenoaks, Kent, on Wednesday June 5th at 12.30 pm. No flowers, but if so desired donations to any of the following, Valence School, Prison Reform Trust, Guys Hospital Scanner Appeal Fund, or to St George's Church, Weald c/o Welham Jones Funeral Directors, 156, London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1DJ, tel: (01732) 742400.

HUNT - On 19th May suddenly in hospital Dr. John Hunt aged 67 years of Cornworthy, Devon and formerly G.P. in Bromley, Kent. Loving husband of Ursula for 41 years and proud father and grandfather. Private cremation followed by a Memorial Service at Cornworthy Parish Church on Tuesday 28th May at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to Perring Funeral Services, 101A High Street, Totnes, Devon. Tel: (01803) 862417.

DEATHS

KATZ - Eric Katz O.B.E., peacefully on Monday 20th May 1996, 10 days before his 80th birthday, beloved husband of Anne-Marie, father to Richard, grandfather to Matthew and Danielle. Funeral at St Giles Church, Ashtead Park, Ashtead, Surrey on Thursday 30th May at 12.30pm followed by a celebration of his life for family and close friends at The Royal Automobile Club, Woodcote Park, Ashtead. Family flowers only. Donations for Retinitis Pigmentosa to L. Hawkins & Sons, 2 Highlands Road, Leatherhead KT22 8ND.

KAYE - Gordon, MA (Oxon); FCA, on 14th May 1996 aged 73 from a sudden heart attack. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and colleagues.

LUBLIN - Marguerite Amy Maccurly (Peggy) died 19th May 1996, aged 79. Funeral Service at Holy Rood Church, Stubbington, Fareham, on Wednesday 29th May at 12.15 pm. Donations Botton Village Appeal Fund c/o M. Coghlan Ltd, Funeral Directors, Westbury Road, Fareham. (01329) 282711.

PARTIS - Victor John peacefully on 19th May at Bishop Auckland Hospital, beloved father of Carole, Elizabeth, Nigel and John and loving grandfather of Kerry, Philip, Charles, Gloria, Sarah and Chloé. Funeral on 28th May. Enquiries to John Meynell Funeral Directors tel: (01325) 301405.

DEATHS

SELIGMAN - On 18th May, Bridget Frances, aged 91 years, died suddenly and peacefully. Wife of the late Douglas and much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service followed by burial at St Mary's Church, Crawley, Winchester on Wednesday 5th June at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research c/o Jno. Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester, SO23 0HU.

SHUTE - Dora Elizabeth on 22nd May, at Crawley Hospital, West Sussex, peacefully, in the faith by which she lived, aged 88. Wife of the late Reverend Ronald Shute, mother of Veronica, Elizabeth, Rosemary and Martin, and much loved grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. Funeral at St Margaret's Church, Warnham, West Sussex on Friday 31st May at 2.30 pm, to be followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations to Crawley Hospital, c/o Freeman Brothers, 9, North Parade, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 2BP.

WATKIN-JONES - David on May 18th died peacefully at home after a long and difficult illness very courageously borne, dearly loved husband of Paula. Cremation at Eastbourne Crematorium Tuesday 28th May at 1 pm. Thanksgiving Service following at Central Methodist Church, Pevensey Road at 2 pm. Family flowers only. All enquiries and donations to the M.S. Society to Haine & Son, 19 South Street, Eastbourne.

DEATHS

WATT - Buddig (Bee). Suddenly but peacefully in her sleep on 21st May at a nursing home in Jodoigne, Belgium. Enid Buddig, formerly of Bishopston, Gower, Swansea, widow of Donald, loving mother of Vanessa, mother-in-law of Johan and dear grandmother of Kate. Funeral arrangements later. All enquiries and letters to Eddie Tucker Funeral Directors, 55 Wimmerfield Avenue, Killay, Swansea, SA2 7BZ. tel: (01792) 280101.

WONG - Peng Soon M.B.E. S.K., a four time All England Badminton Singles Champion and a Member of the three Thomas Cup winning teams died peacefully on 22nd May in Singapore, aged 78 after a long illness. Beloved husband of Doreen and much loved father of Dennis, Patricia and Audrey, he will be sadly missed by his grandsons, granddaughters and sons and daughter-in-law. The family can be contacted at 107 Jalan Jarak, Singapore 809255 or by telephone 00 65 482 6666 or fax 00 65 482 6667.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DUCKHAM - The Memorial Service for Henry Richard Godwin (Dicky) will be held on Wednesday June 12th at St Saviour's Church, St Georges Square, London SW1 at 12 noon.

HEADINGTON - Christopher. Requiem 7.30 pm 9th June, Bradfield College Chapel. Music: his "Bradfield Mass".

LIPFRIEND - A Memorial Service will be held for His Honour Alan Lipfriend at the New London Synagogue, 33 Abbey Road, St Johns Wood, NW8, on Monday 10th June at 7 pm.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

MILLER - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Sir Stephen J.H. Miller KCVO, ophthalmic surgeon, will be held in All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1, on Wednesday 26th June at 2 pm.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

McLEAN - William Dobbie. Sadly missed by his wife Marion and special thoughts from all the family and grandchildren.

WILSON - Rt. Hon. Lord Wilson of Rievaulx (Harold Wilson) Prime Minister 1964-1970, 1974-1976. Died 23rd May 1995. Greatly missed and loved by family, friends and colleagues. He was much loved by the people.

YEATES - Edna Mary (née Lewis). 23rd May 1992. Beloved Mother: "thy eternal summer shall not fade" - Michael (McClain).

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OBITUARIES

JOHNNY 'GUITAR' WATSON

John Watson, blues singer and guitarist, died in Yokohama, Japan on May 17, aged 61. He was born on February 3, 1935.

AS A performer, Johnny "Guitar" Watson was certainly a survivor. He played rhythm and blues in the Fifties, soul in the Sixties and re-invented himself as a funk and disco star in the late Seventies and early Eighties. Indeed, his death came as six of his albums from that period, including *A Real Mother For Ya* which famously showed Watson being pushed across Hyde Park in a "Cadillac" baby carriage by his own mother, had just been re-issued to fresh critical and public acclaim.

Born in Houston, Texas, John Watson grew up watching artists like Lightnin' Hopkins, T-Bone Walker and his favourite, the extrovert performer, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. His father encouraged him to play the piano while he was given his first guitar, by his grandfather, who was a preacher. "He was playing spiritual songs on the guitar when I got it. My grandmother told me not to play any blues on it, and that's the first thing I taught myself to play," he said.

When his parents split up, Watson moved with his father to Los Angeles where he began to enter talent contests and was spotted by saxophone player Chuck Higgins who was looking for a pianist for his band the Mellotones. "Watson had just arrived on the West Coast and was only 13 when he joined my band," Higgins later recalled. "I had strict instructions from his father to look after him, not to let him drink, smoke or go with girls."

But it did not take long for his precocious talent to be noticed. He played keyboards on Higgins's big 1952 instrumental hit *Pachuko Hop* — an anthem in praise of a Chicago gang that held sway in southern California — and sang on the flipside *Motorhead Baby*.

After a year with Higgins, Watson switched to the guitar and formed his own band. It was while playing the bars and clubs of Los Angeles that he developed a spectacular and flamboyant stage presence. "I was doing things like Hendrix 15 years before — playing guitar with my teeth, hanging from the rafters," Watson said. He would work with fellow guitarist Guitar Slim. "We used to work together in the clubs with 30-ft guitar leads. We'd sit on each other's shoulders and walk out into the audience."

His first big break came when he was signed by Federal Records in 1953 as "Young" John Watson and cut the futuristic instrumental *Space Guitar*. He switched labels in 1955 to Modern — where he first became Johnny "Guitar" Watson — and had an immediate hit with a cover of Earl King's New Orleans hit *Those Lonely Nights*, although Watson had to do 16 takes of the tune before the label boss Joe Bihari was satisfied. But perhaps his greatest number from this period was the slow and moving *Three Hours Past Midnight* where, with a vocal that sounds uncannily like a young Mick Jagger, and some superb guitar playing, he showed what a great blues player he could be.

Watson then kept up an active live performance schedule while label hopping from Keen, Class, Arvee and Escort and cutting tracks like "Gangster of Love" which would provide Steve Miller with a huge hit years afterwards.

In 1961 he teamed up with the R&B star Johnny Otis who took him back to the King Records subsidiary, Federal Records, where he scaled the charts once again with *Cuttin' In*. In the mid-Sixties he toured the United Kingdom with former rock and roller Larry Williams and recorded with him for the Okeh label for which they cut a soulful vocal version of the Cannonball Adderley jazz number *Mercy, Mercy, Mercy*, although it was the fast and frantic flipside *A Quitter Never Wins* that proved a winner in Britain's northern soul clubs.

The 1970s saw him adopt a more relaxed style with hits like *I Don't Want To Be A Lone Ranger* before he signed a deal with English label DJM and enjoyed a hugely successful run of funk albums including *Ain't That A Bitch* and *What The Hell Is This?* These showed that he had lost none of his vocal or instrumental abilities even if they were married to a disco beat.

In 1981 he joined A&M but failed to recapture the sound or the success of his DJM albums. Later came the disappointing *Strike On Computers* and his most recent album *Bow Wow* in 1993.

A London concert at the Town and Country Club in 1987 disappointed many since he concentrated on his hits of the 1970s and 1980s rather than his earlier blues material. But, as he told one journalist afterwards, "you got to be where it's at these days, man".

Watson always made sure he was where it's at. His influence can be heard on artists ranging from Jimi Hendrix to Frank Zappa. There are few left able to match his experience or his talent.

URSULA CHURCHILL-DAWES

Ursula Churchill-Dawes, kindergarten teacher and cryptographer, died on April 26 aged 86. She was born on August 17, 1909.

Ursula with her second husband, Ian Peebles

FOR much of her long life, Ursula Churchill-Dawes was the wife of the England cricketer and *Sunday Times* cricket correspondent, Ian Peebles. But she was married three times in all, and had an adventurous life in her own right before the war as a teacher in the Far East. An admiring expatriate described her, when she was young, as the most beautiful woman in Hong Kong.

Her independent nature grew from necessity as a child. She was orphaned at the age of ten, her young mother dying from tuberculosis, and her father, Lieutenant-Colonel George Tulloh, being shot as he led his men out of the trenches at Ypres. Ursula Nora Anstis Tulloh was brought up by an uncle in Scotland, together with her brother Tony. (His son, Bruce Tulloh, was the famous barefoot long-distance runner.)

Ursula had no intention of following the traditional route mapped out for girls of her background into immediate matrimony and motherhood. Instead she trained as a kindergarten teacher before sailing for the Far East. She worked in schools in Hong Kong and Singapore during the 1930s, and travelled all over India, China, Burma and Ceylon. She pony-trekked in the Himalayas and flew down the coast of China in a sea plane. Wherever she visited, she would explore the countryside by walking for miles.

Her striking appearance combined with her spirited manner brought her many admirers. But her first marriage to an academic, Charles Boxer, was not a success and ended in divorce within the space of a year.

Many of her friends spent the war years as prisoners of the Japanese. Ursula escaped this fate, and began the long journey back to Britain with the aim of repatriation. She got as far as Ceylon before realising that she really had no desire to return to grey English skies, notwithstanding all the dangers. She bid farewell to a bus load of homeward-bound expatriates, and determined to look for work where she was, finding employment in Intelligence as a cryptographer. Although she maintained this was at a lowly level, she must have been more valued than she liked to reveal. Duff Cooper, who went out to Singapore early in the war to take a look at the readiness of the British in the Far East, wrote to her to thank her, while she was working for a spell in Java.

Ursula returned to London after the war and at a dinner party at Claridge's was introduced to I. A. R. Peebles, the former England cricketer and captain of Middlesex. They were married in 1947 and went to live first in Bedford Gardens, Kensington, and then in Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire, where they brought up two children.

Her husband's career in first-class cricket ended in 1946, but Peebles subsequently carved out a career for himself as a journalist, reporting for *The Sunday Times* during the 1950s and 1960s. Cricket brought new friends into Ursula's life, even though she did not necessarily take the closest interest in the game itself. Her husband complained that, whenever he looked up from the pitch to smile at her, all he could ever see was the back of her head, as she chattered to other wives. Mollie Wyatt, the wife of Bob Wyatt, was a great friend of hers, and she also entertained Jim Swanton, Brian Johnston, Richie Benaud and Jack Fingleton.

Her husband's death in 1980 devastated Ursula. She found comfort first in the distraction of grandchildren, later in voluntary work and in new relationships. She married Montague Churchill-Dawes, a retired prep school headmaster in 1984. After he died in 1991, her final companion was Stanley Broughton, the former chief executive of Electrolux.

Her last home was in Berkhamsted in Hertfordshire, close to the golf course at Ashridge. She remained in excellent health and when asked her age would routinely deduct ten or twenty years from the true figure. It was a tribute to her youthful manner that many people believed her.

She leaves her son and daughter from her marriage to Ian Peebles.

JAMES ASHLEY

James Ashley, first executive director and chief engineer of Atomic Power Constructions, died on April 27 aged 79. He was born on February 1, 1917.

From left: Sir Christopher Hinton, the Queen, Prince Philip and James Ashley at the opening of Trawsfynydd nuclear power station in 1963.

JAMES ASHLEY was a leader in the development of nuclear power, both civil and military, in this country. Working first with the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and then taking an influential role on the private side of the nuclear industry, he could claim to have been one of the original founding fathers behind the release of an entirely new form of energy in Britain.

Born in South Wales, James Wilfred Ashley was the son of a Welsh heavy engineer. He attended the Newport Boys' High School and from there went to London University, where he studied for a BSc Eng.

His first job was with Electroflo Meters, a firm specialising in industrial instruments and automatic control systems. This technical background led to his being classified as being in "a reserved occupation" under the National Service Acts and his wartime years were spent working (at least indirectly) for the Government.

In the period after the Second World War James Ashley — along with his brother Edward — served with the UK Atomic Energy Authority. He was involved in the design and project management of the Windscale reactors, the Capenhurst gaseous diffusion plant and the other facilities related to the UK nuclear weapons programme. Further developments with which he was associated included the Calder Hall reactor — the first nuclear electric generating station, opened by the Queen in 1956 — and Dounreay, an experimental fast breeder reactor located in the North of Scotland.

Ashley then joined Richardson Westgarth and Company as director of nuclear work, and in 1957 was the main force behind the creation of Atomic Power Constructions, formed to build atomic power stations.

Serving as sole executive director, Ashley was responsible for the recruitment and training of staff; the performance of all technical work including physics, metallurgy, engineering, research and development; and the commercial activities of the company. His efforts were rewarded when Atomic Power Construction received the contract for the Trawsfynydd nuclear power station in Wales. Ashley took that whole development under his personal wing — acting as as technical director, chief engineer and project manager.

He held a wide range of technical patents, including patents for the use of graphite as a moderator of nuclear reactors. He spearheaded the development of the high temperature gas-cooled reactor, notably the Dragon reactor in England. He also acted as a consultant in the United States with the general atomic division of General Dynamics, working on the Peach Bottom nuclear generating station and later the Fort St Vrain high temperature graphite moderated generating station. He also held a consultancy with Gulf Oil. These consultancies took Ashley to projects in Japan, Korea, Spain and Switzerland.

In a step away from the nuclear industry, Ashley advised the Hedjaz Railway Company on the problems of rebuilding the Hedjaz Railway in the Middle East. This project involved three Arab governments, five international banks, two consulting engineers and two UK contracting companies.

In 1939 Ashley married Jean Thompson of Cardiff. Living principally in Surrey, they had two sons but this marriage was dissolved in 1971.

In 1973 Ashley married Shirley Jeafferson and moved to live in Wolverhampton. By now semi-retired, he continued his consultancy work focusing, as always, upon his strengths — design, research and development, technical management and operation. Although "retired", his schedule became, if anything, more demanding.

He managed to balance his personal interests with his "commercial" engagements. He loved hiking in Wales and Cumbria, classical music and gardening. He was an avid rugby fan and in his youth had played for the Welsh Schoolboys.

He had a lifelong love of the visual arts. He created hammered copper pieces as well as jewellery and was a prolific amateur poet.

His second wife died in 1995 and he is survived by his two sons and a stepson.

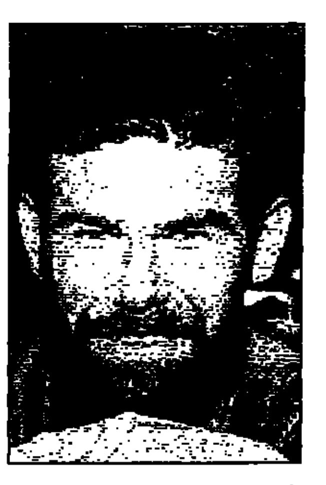
ROBERT HALL

Robert Hall, mountaineer, died in a blizzard on Mount Everest on May 12 aged 35. He was born in Christchurch, New Zealand, on January 14, 1961.

EVEN by the granite standards of New Zealand's mountaineers, Robert Hall was a paradigm among climbers. Technically competent and possessed of a cool level-headedness, he collected mountain peaks as less adventurous people collect stamps, swiftly accumulating over a decade ascents of seven of the world's fourteen 8,000m peaks: Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, K2, Annapurna, Cho Oyu and Xixapangma. In a country where mountaineering is viewed with an almost religious fervour, he became something of an idol.

When on the night of May 10 a savage blizzard swept Everest's fearsome "death zone", Hall was making his descent from a summit which he had already conquered four times previously. His expedition included three clients who had paid £50,000 each to come. When the hurricane force winds struck he, as chief guide, stayed behind with the weakest member of the party, forced to shelter in a snow hole at an altitude of nearly 9,000m. Without sufficient protection, food or liquid to sustain them, Hall's companion died, and though Hall maintained radio contact with his wife in base camp for a further two days, he was severely frost bitten and lacking the strength for the murderously tricky descent. He too died, it was assumed, at some time on May 12.

Robert Edwin Hall was brought up in Christchurch, in easy reach of the mountainous terrain of New Zealand's South Island. In 1979, at the age of 18, he first distinguished himself as a climber when he made a demanding winter ascent of Mount Cook. The next year he became the youngest New Zealander to attempt the ascent of a major Himalayan peak, reaching the snowy crown of Ama Dablam



which towers at 6,812m. But it was in 1981 that he affirmed a lofty reputation among New Zealand's climbers when he topped both his previous achievements with the first ever winter ascent of the Caroline Face of Mount Cook in just eight-and-a-half hours. The fastest summer ascent of this mountain face had at that time been a full 20 hours.

In 1990, along with Gary Ball and Sir Edmund Hillary's son Peter, Hall conquered the "seven summits" — the highest points on each of the world's land masses — in the remarkably short time of seven months. He also spent time as a survival instructor at the Scott Base in Antarctica and made the first descent by paraglider from Mount Cook.

To fund his mountain climbing, Hall set up a firm called Adventure Consultants. Although many questioned the judiciousness of allowing inexperienced mountaineers to buy a place on expeditions to treacherous pinnacles, Hall — with his meticulous attention to detail — was as safe and prudent a guide as could be wished.

He operated, however, in an area where no amount of technology, experience or organisation can ever guarantee survival and in 1993 his closest friend and the co-director of Adventure Consultants died of pulmonary oedema while the two were climbing together on Dhaulagiri.

Hall was vice-president of the New Zealand Alpine Club, New Zealand Mountaineer of the Year in 1987 and a recipient of the Himalayan Rescue Association Award in 1989. In 1990 he was awarded the New Zealand Medal.

He is survived by his wife Jan Arnold whom he met when she was studying high altitude medicine at Pheruche in Nepal. She accompanied him on several of his ascents, including those of Everest, Cho Oyu, Mount Vinson in Antarctica and Carstenz Pyramid in Papua New Guinea. She was seven months pregnant when she accompanied him to base camp on what was to turn out to be her husband's last climb.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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Over the Bank Holiday the following deadline will apply:
Notices to appear on Saturday May 25th, Monday May 27th and Tuesday May 28th must be received in writing by 5pm on Thursday May 23rd. All notices are accepted subject to confirmation.
Please send Court Page announcements by post/fax to:
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Please include in all correspondence: a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent, a daytime and home telephone number and address.

ON THIS DAY

May 23, 1970

John Allegro, never one to be afraid to speak his mind on matters of Biblical history, put the cat among the pigeons with his latest book which sparked off a crackling review from Dennis Potter.

THE SACRED MUSHROOM AND THE CROSS
BY JOHN M. ALLEGRO
(Hodder & Stoughton, 63s)

The story of Jesus is resonant with so many meanings, with such beauty and terror, mystery and simplicity, yearning and disillusion that it vibrates in the mind like a cry heard in the dark and endless forests of a dream. Few of us brought up within the sweet labyrinth of Christian mythology can completely disentangle every part of ourselves from its power or its promise. Some faint and fragmentary glimpse of the tortured Christ figure remains embedded in our coherent language or (worse) our incoherent desires like an ache deep in the ligaments of memory, an old bruise subtly discolouring the very muscles of our intellect.

But those who clung to their belief when the fevers and fancies of childhood had receded into a sad smile, who submitted joyously to the Christian faith in the full, complex maturity of their minds and emotions, must surely find it even more difficult to extricate themselves.

John Allegro was once a Methodist parson, spooning out the grey salvation of his church to shuffling villagers. He was until recently a theological lecturer, and is a philologist skilled at excavating obsolete languages which have been preserved in more modern tongues like fossils in buckling rock. A scholarly, perceptive, quirkily talented man who somewhere along the way — and while immersed in the language and the teeming quarries of faith — has developed an intense antipathy to the whole great edifice of Christianity. An apostate who uses all his formidable equipment *not* to shift, soften, adjust or hone down his old belief, but to destroy it once and for all.

The Sacred Mushroom and the Cross attempts by plucking out the root meaning of words in the oldest written language known to us to reveal the explicit, sometimes beautiful sexual images of early religious experience. God is understood as a gigantic penis fertilising female earth. Rain is God's spermatozoa, spouted out in a mighty orgasm which at its most forceful shakes the heavens with thunder. After the rain, after the thunder, sprouted the puzzlingly swift mushroom.

The phallic shape of this weird fungus contained a drug which, logically, was the purest possible form of God's own spermatozoa. The red-capped *Amanita Muscaria* was God made manifest on earth. A mushroom containing a powerful hallucinogen with which the ancients blew their minds and walked with God.

Allegro boldly sketches in the origins of the primitive fertility cult with an exciting plunge into the catacombs of antiquity where mythology and mycology mingle in a poetic, hallucinatory haze of credible speculation. It is a dazzling foray into the obscure hinterlands of comparative philology. But this, of course, is no mere linguistic frolic: the full thrust of this thesis is directed head on against the figure of Christ.

The author combatively extends the mushroom cult far forward in time to demonstrate catachrestically that Judaism and Christianity are but more sophisticated versions of a similar mystic cult, shaped out of the older mythology. The author is led with ever diminishing credibility to the proposition that "behind the story of Jesus and his companions there lies a secret layer of meaning which was not intended to be read or understood by the outside."

If this is true, the story of Jesus is a hoax. And the style, the temper, the sophistry and weird lattice of this work irresistibly suggests that this is not so much the conclusion as the starting point of the word game ...

Dennis Potter

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

'Production line justice' attacked

■ The Lord Chief Justice today delivers a savage parting shot to the Home Secretary, accusing him of bringing in production line justice on the basis of tainted statistics.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, who is retiring from ill health, challenges Michael Howard over accusations that judges impose soft sentences and warns him that minimum jail terms would vastly increase the prison population.................**Page 1**

Father tells of Jaymee's fight

■ The father of Jaymee Bowen, the 11-year-old girl finally beaten by leukaemia, spoke of her last days and pledged to continue his legal fight over her treatment saying: "She will win in the end." David Bowen said his daughter, who came to prominence as "Child B" in a legal battle with Cambridge health authority, had shown awesome courage ....**Pages 1, 9**

Beef "war cabinet"

John Major and Malcolm Rifkind have created a "war cabinet" to demonstrate the seriousness of the threat to paralyse the European Union over the beef crisis......................**Pages 1, 12, 13**

Oyston jailed for rape

The flamboyant millionaire businessman Owen Oyston was jailed for six years for the "horrendous" rape of a 16-year-old former model ....**Pages 1, 3**

Piltdown clue

Initials on an old canvas trunk found under the roof of the Natural History Museum may finally have solved the riddle of Piltdown Man, the century's most notorious scientific fraud ....**Page 1**

Divorce Bill battle

The Government made a last-ditch attempt to rescue its beleaguered divorce reform Bill, with Labour renewing its threat to vote it down............................**Page 2**

Law Society attack

Fresh turmoil erupted at the Law Society when one of its best-known past presidents, Rodger Pannone, attacked its leaders as unfit to govern ....**Page 4**

Civic ties sundered

Apathy is being blamed as the fishing communities of Lowestoft and Katwijk in The Netherlands end 34 years as twin towns. The citizens of Katjiwk see little point in the civic ties ....**Page 6**

Candidate rejected

The Labour Party's ruling body has deselected John Lloyd, the parliamentary candidate for Exeter, over his past links with terrorism in South Africa ....**Page 10**

Duelling guitars

Eric Clapton or Jimi Hendrix? Chuck Berry or Pete Townshend? Just who is the greatest rock guitarist? A magazine survey seeks to end the debate..............**Page 11**

Rock roadblock

Spain has responded to the conciliatory new Government in Gibraltar by imposing greater obstacles on travellers wishing to cross its border with the British colony..............................**Page 14**

Swiss bomb plan

Switzerland, famed for its armed neutrality, considered building a nuclear bomb, according to a Swiss historian..............**Page 15**

Clinton forces issue

Republicans accused President Clinton of trying to delay a sexual harassment lawsuit by suggesting that as commander-in-chief of the US Armed Forces he could have the same rights as a soldier on active duty................**Page 16**

Polling errors

Israel's election was thrown wide open with the publication of a Labour Party document alleging that opinion polls were over-estimating support for the Prime Minister, Shimon Peres . **Page 17**

Art lovers throng to view Degas

■ The Degas exhibition which opened at the National Gallery in London has sold more advance tickets than any previous show at the gallery. As art lovers ignored the rain in a queue for tickets, exhibition curators were already hailing the show as a popular and critical success. More than 3,500 advance tickets have been sold ....**Page 5**

ANDRE CAMARA

A painting by Damien Hirst containing 56 coloured dots sells for £32,200 at Christie's in London yesterday. Report, page 5

BUSINESS

Economy: The Bank of England has warned mortgage lenders that they could be creating trouble for themselves by offering big discounts.............................**Page 25**

Hotels: Granada, the media and leisure group that won Forte in a £3.9 billion takeover battle in January, surprised the City by announcing that it would sell Forte's Exclusive chain of hotels...**Page 25**

Phone numbers: Nynex CableComms became the first cable company to introduce phone-number portability...........................**Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 25.2 points to close at 3764.2. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 84.8 to 84.6 after a fall from $1.5135 to $1.5103 and from DM2.3332 to DM2.3237..........................**Page 28**

SPORT

Cricket: The Texaco Trophy one-day international series between England and India begins at the Oval overshadowed by the ill-timed serialisation of a book by the chairman of selectors, Ray Illingworth..........................**Page 48**

Football: Gary and Philip Neville become the second set of brothers this century to represent England in the same match when they play against China..................**Page 48**

Athletics: The British federation was accused of "spiteful" behaviour towards Diane Modahl after her omission from the reserve squad for the European Cup.......**Page 42**

Racing: Mystery surrounds the whereabouts of one of 34 entries left in the Derby, Stereo Dancer, who is believed to be in Serbia .... **Page 43**

ARTS

Films of the week: Fresh from winning the top prize at Cannes, Mike Leigh's tender *Secrets & Lies* hits Britain; while the only fear expressed in the Richard Gere thriller *Primal Fear* is the fear of being original ....**Page 35**

Famous collector: A National Gallery show, running in conjunction with the big Degas exhibition, offers a fascinating insight into the artist as collector of other people's work...................................**Page 35**

New videos: Some fine performances and plenty of period detail enliven *The Madness of King George*...............................**Page 36**

Gallery growth: Thanks to a £3 million lottery handout, expansion at the Serpentine Gallery in London is under way.....................**Page 37**

FEATURES

Joe Joseph: Virginia Bottomley has a mystical talent for selecting photo-opportunities that, somehow, manage to make her look just completely barking............**Page 19**

Catalan icon: Elegant Barcelona is in the grip of an ill-tempered revolt after the city's football club sacked its acclaimed Dutch coach, Tunku Varadarajan reports......... **Page 20**

BODY AND MIND

Child B: Much has been written about Jaymee Bowen as the feisty schoolgirl fighting cancer, but little has been said about her darker days...................................**Page 18**

TRAVEL

Tropical adventures: The changing nature of exotic honeymoons. Plus flight, ferry, holiday and hotel bargains...................... **Pages 40, 41**

BOOKS

Good reads: Why does Sappho seem a lone voice? Peter Stothard on women poets in the ancient world; Peter Ackroyd on Thomas Cranmer .... **Pages 38, 39**

THE PAPERS

Those who have benefited most from the United Nations embargo against Iraq have been, primarily, Saudi Arabia, which has seen its own oil production rise, and, indirectly, America, which has converted its ally into a major commercial client — *El Pais*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ POP
David Sinclair on *Return of the Real*, the new album from gangsta rapper Ice-T

■ MULTIMEDIA
A 16-page guide for parents on education and the new breed of home computers

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Evangelists are pouring into the former Soviet Union, but the locals are wary. *Witness* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond on a confusing denouement to *Madson*........................**Page 47**

OPINION

Bully for beef

Boldness has never been John Major's defining virtue. But on the few occasions on which he has used it, his daring has paid off......**Page 21**

Imran to declare

Imran Khan's test will come when he matches himself against the difficulties of drawing up a detailed manifesto and gathering together a leadership team to confront his opponents in an election........**Page 21**

Gazza and the Wall

It would be a misfortune to have travelled to the end of the Silk Road, with everything to lose and very little to win, and then to fail to score. To miss the Great Wall as well would be carelessness worthy of Marco Polo ....**Page 21**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Ministers will even go so far as to disregard the agenda of European discussions. "If we are there to talk about transport, we will talk about beef. If fishing is on the table, we will talk about beef." This is a foreign policy scripted by Monty Python...........................**Page 20**

MAGNUS LINKLATER

Let us remember that there are no such things as UFOs, bending spoons, Yetis, Loch Ness monsters or London double-deckers at the South Pole. And there is no such thing as an undiscovered work by *Charlotte Brontë*..............**Page 20**

JOHN BRYANT

Sporting dreams used to begin with nothing more sophisticated than a tin can. Today children like their sporting dreams to begin on computer screens, and their fantasies to be animated and digitised.................................**Page 46**

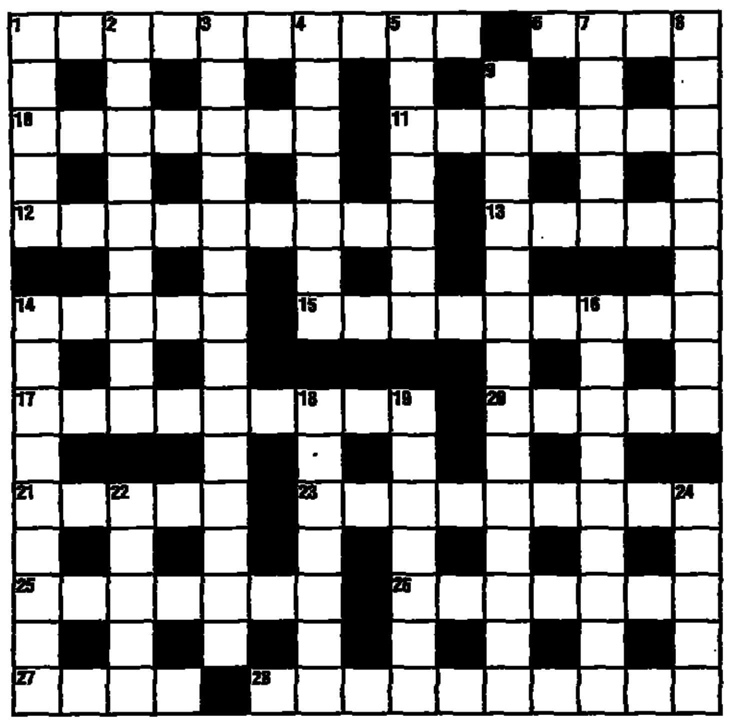
OBITUARIES

Johnny "Guitar" Watson, blues musician; **Ursula Churchill Dawes**, kindergarten teacher and cryptographer; **Robert Hall**, mountaineer..............................**Page 23**

LETTERS

Opposition to enlarged Nato; Toronto blessing......................**Page 23**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,175



ACROSS

1 Trouble in orchards, unusually brief and inconsequential (4-6).
6 Blow this hairstyle! (4).
10 Abandoned cricket side on pitch (4-3).
11 Improper distribution to players at start (7).
12 Oriental poet's always comprehending a grave (9).
13 The French hail and farewell (5).
14 Waylay in a section of flight (5).
15 He avoids the bishop in a Barset novel (9).
17 Countering ill-feeling in opponent of union presentation (9).
20 Bitter's free, going by the bill (5).
21 Have one's eye on bloke Times leader's on (5).
23 Suitable for listener, opening broadcast (9).
25 In the wind, it goes higher than the rest (7).
26 Chance for expanding (7).
27 Eastern garment I put on 14, oddly (4).
28 Actor slow to come in? His job's on the line (10).

DOWN

1 Piece of documentary film, reduced – and shortened (5).
2 Proof against train-sets being damaged (9).
3 Boating, radioed for repair? Breaking down, naturally (14).
4 Royal visitor from Spain, intrigued by freak tree in nursery? (7).
5 Bone's vibration sure to be troublesome (7).
7 A time to show up in amphitheatre (5).
8 Gordon-led riot a bloomer (6,3).
9 How explicit was A. Brontë under cover? (2,5,2,1,4).
14 No works of Landseer, might one presume? (9).
16 Naturalness of average resort of Italy (9).
18 Earth's surface covers valuable raw material (7).
19 Guard's concern (4-3).
22 Clergyman detained by civic architect (5).
24 Large unorthodox music-maker (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,174

H	O	L	S	T		R	E	I	N	S	T	A	T	E
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D		E		K		S		E		V		I		E
S	H	R	I	N	K	I	N	G	V	I	O	L	E	T
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Times Two Crossword, page 48

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

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Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
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N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
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West Country	738
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North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Hillsborough, Co Down, 17C (63F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Machrihanish, Strathclyde, 0.75in; highest sunshine: Aberdeen, 8.4hr.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 34.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1995

FORECAST

☐ **General:** sunshine and showers.

Much of England and Wales although dry at first will have a cloudy day with outbreaks of rain spreading eastwards. Northern England should become brighter at times between showers. Late in the day drier, brighter but showery weather may reach Wales. It will be rather windy in the south at times.

Over Scotland and Northern Ireland early cloud and patchy drizzle will soon give way to sunny intervals and scattered showers. The showers will be heaviest in the north west.

Temperatures will generally be near the May average.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, Central N England:** after a cloudy start outbreaks of rain will spread from the west. Wind southwest, moderate becoming fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England:** early drizzle turning to rain but brighter by evening. Wind southwest, moderate. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** early cloud and drizzle, then brightening with sunshine and showers. Wind southwest, moderate or fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney:** sunny spells and a few scattered showers. Wind southwest, moderate. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Shetland:** cloudy with rain. Max 11C (52F).

☐ ***Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday:*** showers or longer spells of rain, but becoming drier later on Saturday.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

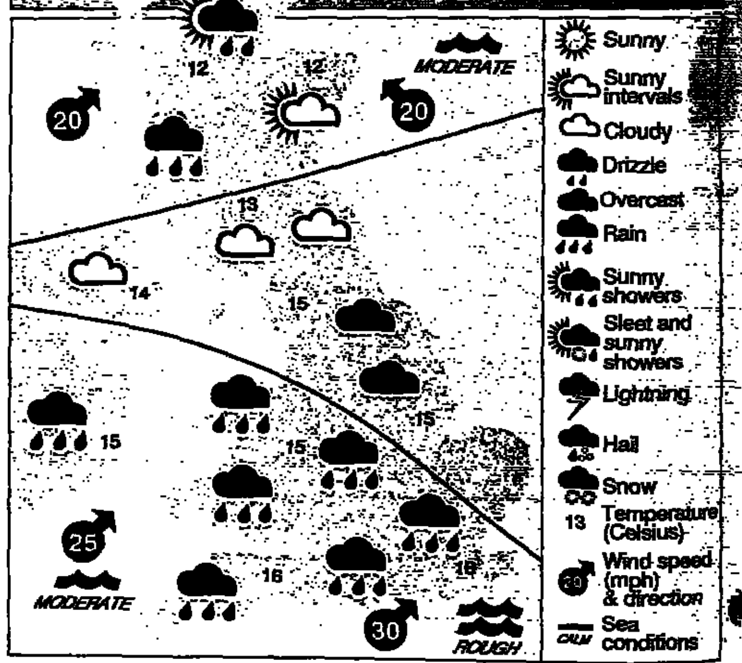
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	8.4	0.05	12	54	r	Leeds	1.7	0.13	12	54	r
Anglesey	4.4	0.20	13	55	r	Lerwick	0.3	-	8	46	du
Aspatria	4.7	0.11	15	59	r	Littlehmptn	2.4	0.24	12	54	r
Aviemore	2.0	-	12	54	c	London	1.0	0.17	13	55	r
Belfast	2.0	0.19	16	61	f	Lowestoft	2.0	0.04	12	54	r
Birmingham	X					Margate	1.9	0.06	14	57	r
Bognor R	2.3	0.20	11	52	r	Minehead	0.5	0.39	16	61	r
Bournem'th	1.8	0.36	11	52	r	Morecambe	3.9	0.15	14	57	r
Bristol	2.7	0.24	13	55	r	Newcastle	2.6	0.03	12	54	r
Buxton	1.6	0.30	10	50	r	Newquay	X				
Cardiff	1.1	0.55	15	59	r	Penzance	X	0.70	16	61	r
Clacton	6.3	0.05	11	52	r	Poole	0.1	0.45	12	54	r
Cleethorpes	X					Prestatyn	X	0.01	16	61	b
Colwyn Bay	X					Ross-o-wye	1.8	0.03	13	55	d
Cromer	X					Ryde	2.8	0.28	12	54	r
Dunbar	2.4	0.01	13	55	r	Salcombe	-	0.72	13	55	r
Eastbourne	2.9	0.20	12	54	r	Sandown	2.8	0.35	11	52	r
Edinburgh	1.0	0.02	14	57	r	Saunton Snd	0.9	0.11	15	59	sh
Eskdalemuir	0.3	0.15	10	50	r	Scarboro'	3.3	0.05	12	54	r
Exmouth	0.1	0.22	13	55	d	Shanklin	X				
Falmouth	X					Shrewsbury	1.5	0.09	14	57	r
Fishguard	1.0	0.15	13	55	r	Skegness	X				
Folkestone	4.0	0.04	13	55	r	Southend	4.0	0.18	14	57	sh
Glasgow	1.1	0.17	14	57	r	Southport	4.4	0.14	15	59	sh
Guernsey	1.2	0.35	13	55	r	Southsea	1.7	0.24	11	52	r
Hastings	3.0	0.15	12	54	r	Stornoway	4.9	0.02	12	54	r
Hayling I.	2.8	0.17	11	52	r	Swanage	1.4	0.40	11	52	r
Herne Bay	2.3	0.13	13	55	r	Teignmouth	-	0.29	14	57	r
Hove	1.9	0.01	13	55	sh	Tenby	X				
Hunstanton	3.2	0.06	13	55	r	Tiree	3.8	0.40	12	54	r
Ilfracombe	X					Torquay	0.9	0.50	14	57	r
Isle of Man	X					Ventnor	2.6	0.28	11	52	r
Jersey	0.8	0.44	12	54	r	West-s-mare	1.1	0.28	15	59	sh
Kinloss	8.2	0.01	14	57	c	Weymouth	-	0.35	11	52	r

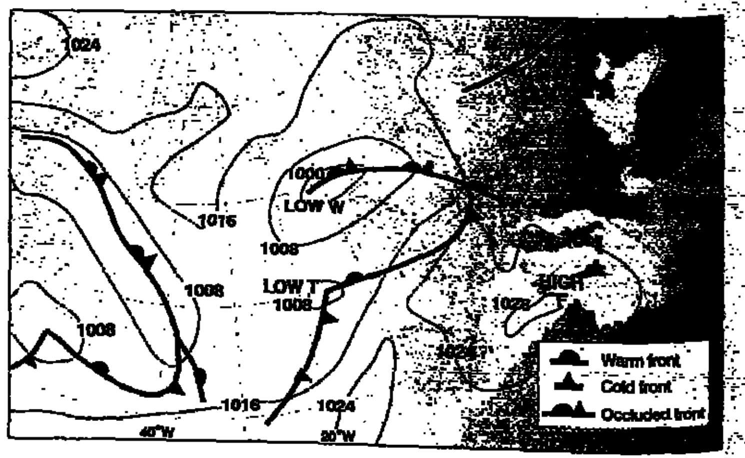
ABROAD

Ajaccio	20	68	s	Corfu	27	81	s	Madrid	18	64	f	Riyadh	38	100	s
Akrotiri	27	81	s	C'phagn	10	50	c	Majorca	21	70	f	Rome	21	70	s
Alex'dria	26	79	s	Dublin	8	46	h	Malaga	21	70	s	S Fr'sco	16	61	r
Algiers	21	70	f	Dubrovnik	22	72	s	Malta	23	73	s	S Paulo	21	70	f
Amst'dm	16	61	f	Faro	21	70	s	Melb'rne	14	57	c	Salzburg	18	64	s
Athens	27	81	s	Florence	22	72	f	Mexico C	25	77	s	Santiago	15	59	s
B Aires	19	66	s	Frankfurt	15	59	f	Miami	24	75	r	Seoul	21	70	f
Bahrain	38	100	s	Funchal	19	66	c	Milan	21	70	f	Sing'por	32	90	f
Bangkok	29	84	r	Geneva	16	61	f	Montreal	23	73	s	St'kholm	X		
Barbados	28	82	c	Gibraltar	21	70	s	Moscow	13	55	c	Strasb'rg	14	57	f
Barcelona	20	68	f	Helsinki	16	61	s	Munich	17	63	f	Sydney	16	61	s
Beirut	23	73	f	Hong K	X			N Delhi	36	97	f	Tangier	23	73	s
Belgrade	20	68	f	Innsbrck	18	64	s	N York	33	91	s	Tel Aviv	25	77	s
Berlin	16	61	f	Istanbul	26	79	s	Nairobi	21	70	c	Tenerife	23	73	f
Bermuda	23	73	c	Jeddah	36	97	s	Naples	25	77	s	Tokyo	23	73	f
Biarritz	14	57	f	Jo'burg	19	66	s	Nice	19	66	s	Toronto	21	70	s
Bord'x	17	63	c	Karachi	X			Oslo	16	61	f	Tunis	23	73	s
Brussels	16	61	f	L Angels	21	70	s	Paris	13	55	f	Valencia	23	73	s
Budapest	18	64	f	L Palmas	23	73	f	Peking	29	84	s	Vanc'ver	12	54	f
Cairo	33	91	s	Le Touquet	12	54	f	Perth	20	68	f	Venice	20	68	f
Cape Tn	X			Lisbon	18	64		Prague	16	61	f	Vienna	18	64	f
Ch'church	X			Locarno	17	63	c	Reykjavik	10	50	r	Warsaw	14	57	f
Chicago	24	75	s	Luxembg	14	57	f	Rhodes	26	79	s	Wash'ton	34	93	s
Cologne	14	57	c	Luxor	36	97	s	Rio de J	25	77	f	Zurich	12	54	f

Temperatures at midday local time on Tuesday. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: low W will remain near northern Scotland and closely fill; low T will run steadily northeast towards Denmark with central pressure unchanged; high F will slowly decline in situ



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5:09	6.5	5:16	6.4	Leith	5:55	4.9	6:29	4.7
Aberdeen	4:42	3.7	5:18	3.4	Liverpool	2:20	8.4	2:48	[illegible]
Avonmouth	10:21	11.1	10:29	11.0	Lowestoft	1:04	2.1	12:52	[illegible]
Belfast	2:37	3.4	3:08	3.0	Margate	3:22	4.3	3:25	[illegible]
Cardiff	10:07	10.4	10:18	10.5	Milford Haven	9:36	5.7	9:52	[illegible]
Devonport	8:56	4.6	9:07	4.8	Newquay	8:33	5.6	8:56	[illegible]
Dover	2:15	5.9	2:38	6.0	Oban	9:04	3.2	9:11	[illegible]
Dublin (N Wall)	2:54	3.7	3:30	3.4	Penzance	8:02	4.7	8:23	[illegible]
Falmouth	8:32	4.1	8:57	4.4	Portland	9:47	1.5	9:46	[illegible]
Greenock	3:40	3.3	4:25	2.9	Portsmouth	2:24	4.2	3:00	[illegible]
Harwich	3:02	3.6	3:17	3.6	Shoreham	2:10	5.4	2:47	[illegible]
Holyhead	1:28	5.0	1:58	4.7	Southampton	1:56	4.1	2:24	[illegible]
Hull (Albert D)	9:24	6.5	10:00	6.1	Swansea	9:38	8.1	9:51	[illegible]
Ilfracombe	9:23	7.8	9:38	7.8	Tees	7:05	4.8	7:32	[illegible]
King's Lynn	9:36	5.6	10:00	5.3	Walton-on-Naze	2:54	3.8	3:06	[illegible]

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 4.58 am
Sun sets: 8.58 pm
Moon sets 12.32 am
Moon rises 10.24 am

First quarter May 25

London 8.58 pm to 4.57 am
Bristol 9.07 pm to 5.07 am
Edinburgh 9.34 pm to 4.46 am
Manchester 9.16 pm to 4.55 am
Penzance 9.13 pm to 5.25 am

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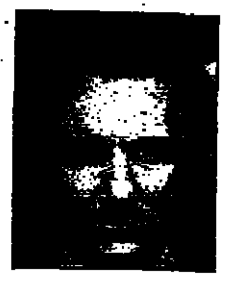


ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

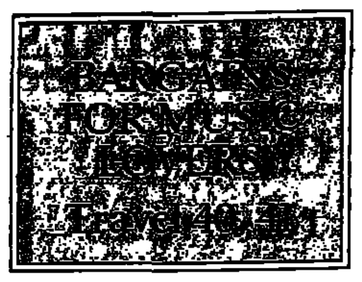
Consequences of the 'war' against Europe

BOOKS 38, 39

Thomas Cranmer: a reformer misunderstood?

SPORT 42-48

Neville brothers join forces in England's cause



THE TIMES 2

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY MAY 23 1996

Granada surprises City with its hotel reservations

By Eric Reguly

GRANADA, the media and leisure group that won Forte in a £3.9 billion hostile takeover battle in January, surprised the City yesterday with the announcement that it would sell Forte's Exclusive chain of trophy hotels but keep the larger Meridien chain. Granada had originally intended to sell both hotel groups to cut its high debt.

The move appears to deliver a blow to Sir Rocco Forte, the former Forte group chairman and chief executive, who had been preparing to bid for the Exclusive and Meridien together. He said: "I am not interested in Exclusive on its own. I am only interested in the complete package."

Analysts noted, however, that Granada has a fiduciary duty to consider a bid for both chains if one were made. Sir Rocco would not comment on any plans he has to launch an unsolicited bid for the groups as a whole, though he and Gerry Robinson, Granada's chief executive, are said to be on friendly terms. With the help of his advisers, including J P Morgan, the New York bank, Sir Rocco has loans in place that would make his bid credible.

During the takeover battle, Forte valued the Exclusive and Meridien chains together at about £1.6 billion, with the Exclusive hotels worth somewhat more than half of that amount. The hotels in the Exclusive portfolio include Brown's and the Hyde Park in London, the Plaza Athénées in New York and Paris, the Eden in Rome and the Sandy Lane in Barbados.

The 85 Meridien hotels are a notch below the Exclusives, but are still considered five-star. They are scattered worldwide and generally trade under the Meridien name.

Granada said it decided to keep the Meridien chain after a review of the Forte hotels because it had more profit potential. Mr Robinson said the review "identified the potential for substantial improvement and development using our own management control and focus".

Granada is expected to put new management teams into the Meridien and run its hotels as a group instead of individual properties.

Lazard Brothers, Granada's financial adviser, will publish the Exclusive's sales document within two weeks. It has received dozens of inquiries from potential buyers, including the Barclay brothers, who own the Ritz and Howard hotels in London. Other possible purchasers include ITT Sheraton, Marriott, and Middle and Far Eastern investors.

Charles Allen, Granada's chief executive, said he expects the Exclusive hotels to be sold either individually or in small packages. Granada also intends to sell its stake in the Savoy Hotel Group, which it inherited with the Forte purchase. Granada, however, does not expect a quick sale because it lacks voting control of the Savoy.

Pennington, page 27

Warning by Bank on loan discounts

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

THE Bank of England has issued a severe warning to mortgage lenders, saying that banks and building societies could be creating trouble for themselves by offering heavy discounts and cash-back offers.

The Bank believes that lenders have been lulled into a false sense of security by the current low interest-rate environment, and the savings market, which is distorted by billion of pounds tied up in savings accounts waiting for building societies to convert to bank status.

Four building societies are planning to become banks next year — Halifax, Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester and Northern Rock. The free share distribution to savers is dependent on keeping a minimum amount in their savings accounts. In most cases the higher the amount, the higher the share distribution.

The Bank fears that if interest rates suddenly rise over the next 18 months just as savings are withdrawn, it could lead to trouble for lenders and might threaten their capital strength.

This comes hard on the heels of last week's warning from the Building Societies Commission that lenders should put limits on the amount of discounted business. Sums of up to £9,000 are being offered to borrowers who transfer their mortgages. Privately, most UK mortgage lenders are worried about the level of discounting and the special deals on offer, but none is prepared to make the first move to pull out.

The Bank's warning was contained in the annual *Banking Act* report, published yesterday. In it the Bank said that, over the past year, there had been a noticeable increase in competition for mortgage lending. While this was good for those with access to this finance, and while it was clear that the banking industry "generally is well capitalised and profitable by past standards", it was clear that the competition for savings was not as intense as for lending.

The Bank believes that as some lenders are better at credit assessment than others, and some are lower-cost producers, those with poor risk assessment procedures and higher cost bases could suffer.

The British Bankers' Association said yesterday that it would examine the issue of disclosure of the effect of discounts and incentives as part of its review of its statement of recommended accounting practice on advances. The BBA revised statement is to be published by the end of the summer.

The Bank report said it was "important that lenders continue to assess carefully the terms on which they write business. Caution also needs to be exercised in the methods of accounting which are adopted for any schemes used to induce business."

Its concern about accounting centres on the reluctance of some lenders, most recently Cheltenham & Gloucester, to disclose how profits would have been affected if the cost of cash-backs and discounts had been written off immediately.

Rob Thomas, building society analyst at UBS, said most building societies do write off cash-backs immediately, while banks tend to amortize the cost over the period of time the customer is locked in to the lender when it has taken one of the special deals on offer — usually three or five years.

The Bank suggested that it did not have a view on whether the amount should be written off or amortized, but it felt strongly that there should be more accounting openness.

Only Abbey National was singled out as a lender that amortizes the cost and provides sufficient information in its accounts to demonstrate the cost. Abbey disclosed that if it had written off the cost of special offers immediately it would have knocked £105 million from its £1.02 billion profits last year.

The annual report showed that Eddie George, the governor, received a £3,008 pay rise in the year, taking his total pay package to £232,423.

PETER TRIEVNOR

Rain failed to halt the opening of the Corney & Barrow Golf Croquet League at Exchange Square in the Broadgate, London. Pictured, from left, are Roger Ambrose, of the All England Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club, David Goodenough, and Nick Tant, both representing Kleinwort Benson, and Count Edouard de Nazelle, who was playing for Veuve Clicquot

Numbers on hold at Nynex

By Eric Reguly

NYNEX CABLECOMMS is the first cable company to introduce phone number portability, which allows customers to keep the same number when they change to competing operators. The move will be introduced by the rest of the cable industry and is expected to take many customers from British Telecom.

The lack of number portability was considered one of the major barriers towards creating a free market in the residential phone sector. Oftel, the telecommunications regulator, made its introduction one of its most important goals and took the issue to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last year after accusing BT of delaying its introduction.

Nynex, which is American-owned and the second largest cable company, is to introduce number portability in its Derby franchise and will roll out the service in its other 15 franchises by August.

It will charge BT customers a £20 one-off fee to switch over. About £8 will go to BT to cover the costs of directing calls on to the Nynex network and another £4 will pay for a separate call conveyance charge.

BT is losing about 50,000 customers a month to the cable companies and analysts said that number portability will increase the loss rate.

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	3764.2	(-25.2)
Yield	3.78%	
FT-SE A All share	1892.50	(-10.86)
Nikkei	21958.00	(-133.74)
New York		
Dow Jones	5728.50	(-7.78)*
S&P Composite	672.71	(-0.05)*

Federal Funds	$5\frac{7}{16}$%*	($5\frac{1}{8}$%)
Long Bond	$88\frac{14}{16}$*	($89\frac{7}{32}$)
Yield	6.88%*	(6.85%)

3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{1}{16}$%	($6\frac{1}{16}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	$106\frac{1}{4}$	($106\frac{7}{16}$)

New York:		
$	1.5109*	(1.5135)
London:		
$	1.5102	(1.5138)
DM	2.3236	(2.3331)
FFr	7.8714	(7.8954)
SFr	1.9111	(1.9163)
Yen	161.51	(162.04)
£ Index	84.6	(84.8)

London:		
DM	1.5398*	(1.5414)
FFr	5.2141*	(5.2190)
SFr	1.2655*	(1.2688)
Yen	107.01*	(107.16)
$ Index	97.2	(97.2)

Tokyo close Yen 107.35

Brent 15-day (Aug)	$18.40	($18.00)

London close	$391.65	($390.05)

* denotes midday trading price

Rate threat

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, made it clear at his April 3 meeting with the Bank of England Governor that he would be prepared to raise interest rates if economic growth proved "unsustainably fast". Page 26

Green law

Business would like to see the Government police environmental law more rigorously, according to a survey of leading companies by Entec, the environmental consultancy. The main concerns were water and air pollution, waste disposal and contaminated land. Page 30

CBI backs Major on beef stance

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

BUSINESS leaders yesterday uncomfortably closed ranks behind the Government's policy of non-cooperation with Europe over beef.

As leaders of the Confederation of British Industry uneasily supported the Prime Minister's move, the CBI's policy of strict political neutrality in the run-up to the election came under strain when its new president, Sir Colin Marshall, endorsed John Major's prospects at the polls.

After the Government's aggressive declaration against the EU over its beef ban, CBI leaders, who have been calling for a rational, unemotional and thought-through debate over Europe, tried to shrug off what many believe could be the damage to business of a ban on European co-operation.

Bass acts coy on takeover aims

By Alasdair Murray

SIR IAN PROSSER, chairman of Bass, yesterday predicted strong organic growth for the brewing and leisure company, but remained coy about its acquisition aims.

Sir Ian said that Bass was interested in strengthening its divisions through a large purchase but was under no pressure to act.

"There is a lot of opportunity for us to grow organically, but we also have the firepower to take other opportunities when they arise," he said.

Sir Ian said he wanted to see more consolidation in the brewing sector, but refused to comment on speculation about Carlsberg-Tetley, the brewer. Bass has been linked with it, and also with William Hill, the betting chain, and Ladbroke, the hotel company.

Bass yesterday unveiled a 10 per cent rise in interim profits, to £289 million, above expectations. This, and a bullish trading statement, helped Bass shares to rise 20p, to 788p.

The company said that it would speed up growth and was aiming to raise capital expenditure by £250 million, to £600 million, for the full year. Bass aims to open 100 new pubs by September and hopes to add a backlog of 516 hotels to the Holiday Inn chain over the next two years.

There was a strong performance by the hotel division, with Holiday Inn lifting its operating profits by 19 per cent, to £76 million. Managed houses increased operating profits by 23 per cent, to £106 million.

Bad weather and National Lottery scratchcards hit leisure division profits, down by 17 per cent, to £35 million.

A 7.7p interim dividend, up 8.5 per cent, is due on July 29.

Tempus, page 28

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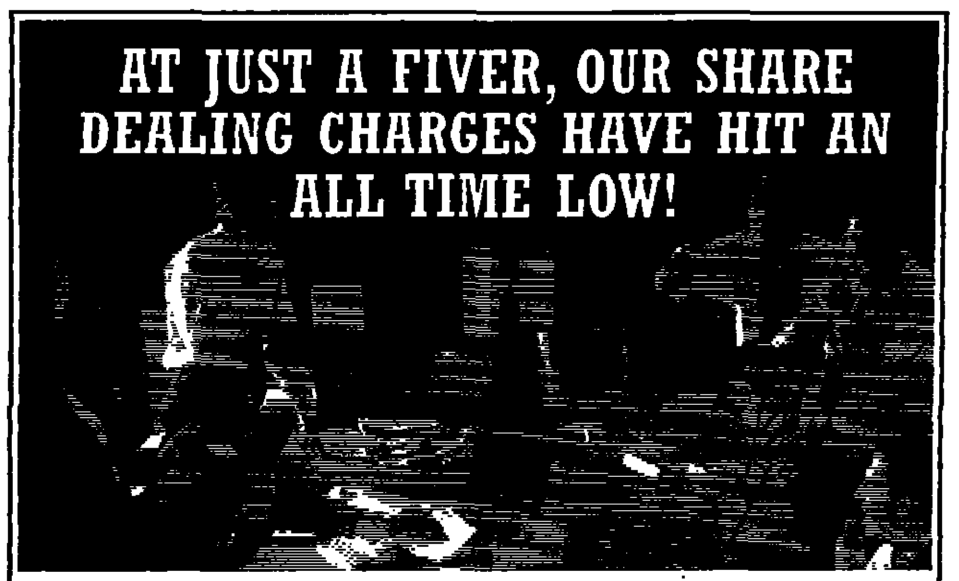

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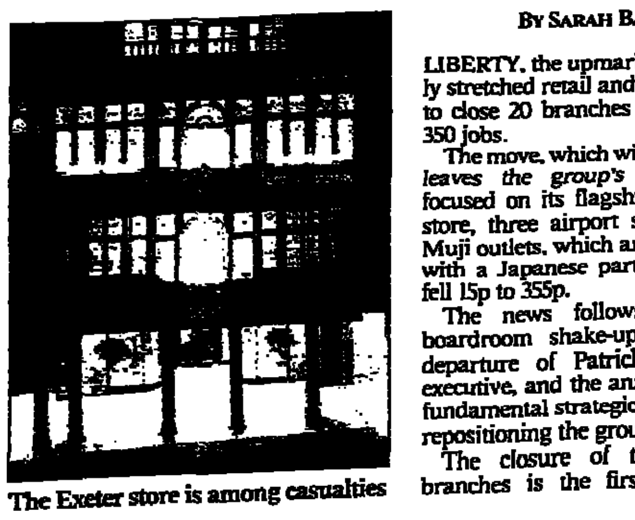
Liberty to close 20 UK branches



The Exeter store is among casualties

By Sarah Bagnall

LIBERTY, the upmarket but financially stretched retail and fabrics group, is to close 20 branches with the loss of 350 jobs.

The move, which will cost £5 million, leaves the group's retail activities focused on its flagship Regent Street store, three airport shops and three Muji outlets, which are a joint venture with a Japanese partner. The shares fell 15p to 355p.

The news follows last month's boardroom shake-up, involving the departure of Patrick Austen, chief executive, and the announcement of a fundamental strategic review aimed at repositioning the group.

The closure of the loss-making branches is the first result of the review. The branches are spread across the country from Glasgow to Exeter and the latest one to open was in Fenchurch Street in the City of London last September.

Ian Thomson, who took over as chief executive on Mr Austen's departure, said: "The branches are not profitable. To replicate the Regent Street store in a very small space is not possible and as a result strategically they don't fit."

At the time of the management reshuffle, Liberty gave warning that it would make significant exceptional charges and yesterday it said the £5 million closure costs would only form part of these expected charges.

Liberty is due to announce its full-year results on June 7 and yesterday Mr Thomson said: "Details of the other substantial exceptional provisions required for the repositioning of the company will be included in the statement." In April, the group warned shareholders that pre-tax profits and exceptional items would not exceed £2.1 million in the year to January 27, against £3.6 million last time.

The prospect of further large exceptional charges raises a question mark over the future of the group's non-retail activities. These include a printing works in France, an affiliation with Oxford University to make clothing and gifts with the university logo, and a dress and furnishing fabric wholesale business.

Liberty also announced the appointment of Andrew Garety as finance director. The closures of the branches will start on June 6 and are expected to be completed by mid-August.

Clarke will raise rates if growth accelerates

By Alasdair Murray

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, made it clear at his April 3 meeting with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, that he would be prepared to raise interest rates if economic growth proved "unsustainably fast".

Mr Clarke also reasserted his belief that the economy would grow at 3 per cent this year with activity picking up in the second half of the year.

The Chancellor's continued faith in his GDP prediction implies that there will be little scope for further rate cuts before the general election, though City forecasters are predicting much lower GDP growth of about 2.5 per cent. The minutes of the monthly monetary meeting also show the Chancellor's thinking was largely in line with that of Mr George.

The Bank of England supported Mr Clarke's view that the Government would meet its 2.5 per cent inflation target next year and agreed that rates should be left unchanged at 6 per cent.

Cost and price pressures are described as "subdued", and, while there is some concern expressed over the slowdown in manufacturing, neither Mr Clarke nor Mr George felt that there was a big risk to this sector of the economy by leaving rates unchanged.

The two men agreed that while there were signs of an improvement in the housing market, led by rising house prices, there was presently no sign of a knock-on effect on retail prices.

But Mr George expressed some concern about monetary growth and suggested there was a risk of higher inflation in the medium term.

ALAN WELLER

Sir John Banham, left, chairman of Kingfisher, with Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive, at yesterday's AGM

Kingfisher upbeat as sales surge

By Sarah Bagnall

KINGFISHER, the B&Q to Comet retail group, delivered an upbeat statement yesterday on first quarter trading, and an intention to seek a secondary listing for the shares in Paris.

Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive, said at the annual meeting that each of the retail businesses — Woolworths, B&Q, Comet, Superdrug and Darty, the French electrical retailer — had lifted sales. Overall, the group raised like-for-like sales by 6.4 per cent to £1.2 billion in the 13 weeks to May 4, helping to lift the shares 12p to 620p.

Strong sales of multi-media PCs helped Comet to a 13 per cent rise in like-for-like sales; sales of toys and home essentials helped Woolworths lift underlying sales by 7.5 per cent; Superdrug sales rose 2 per cent; while at B&Q, sales rose by 3.4 per cent.

Darty lifted underlying sales by 5.1 per cent. The decision to seek a Paris listing reflects increased interest in Kingfisher because of Darty.

Unilateral trade embargo on Cuba leaves US isolated

From Janet Bush in Paris

A FURIOUS row over America's unilateral trade embargo against Cuba was no nearer to being resolved yesterday — after two days of bitter discussion which dominated the annual meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The US Administration found itself isolated over its enactment of the Helms-Burton law under which American citizens can sue companies from other countries investing in Cuba. The law was signed after Cuba shot down civilian aircraft in February.

At the two-day meeting here which ended yesterday, 20 out of 27 OECD members spoke out against America's unilateral action, arguing that it flew in the face of the multilateral approach to trade disputes enshrined in the Gatt world trade treaty signed in 1994. They are particularly angry that the US should take action which hurts its trading partners.

Canada, which has made a formal complaint within the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta), describes the American action as a violation of international law and threatened to retaliate if the US does not back down.

Art Eggleton, Canada's Trade Minister, said: "How can we talk about strengthening the multilateral system and the security of investment that it is supposed to ensure when one country takes unilateral action. That is why we are protesting."

Other delegations made it clear that they too are considering a counter-attack and the European Commission is in the process of making a formal complaint under the auspices of the World Trade Organisation which is now supposed to arbitrate in international trade disputes.

British officials said that they were determined to keep the pressure on the US in the hope that similar legislation pending in Congress, which would apply sanctions against Iran and Libya, might be headed off. The US delegation yesterday said that this is currently being discussed by Congress and the Administration.

But American officials were unrepentant at the end of the OECD discussions. They took the line that countries complaining about their unilateral action against Cuba might have been in a stronger position if they had joined the Americans in condemning terrorism by rogue states. Joseph Stiglitz, chairman of the Administration's Council of Economic Advisers, yesterday stressed that the US was totally committed to strengthening the multilateral trading system but said that, until this had been fully formed, there would still be cases when bilateral action would have to be taken.

However, the Administration is discussing how fully the Helms-Burton law will be implemented in a number of international arenas in an attempt to soften criticism and even full-scale retaliation by its major trading partners.

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Oasis legal adviser appeals over rebuke

By Jason Nissé

A SENIOR City lawyer who advised the chairman and deputy chairman of Oasis Stores, the retailer, in their controversial purchase of the company from receivership, is appealing against a severe rebuke from the Solicitors' Complaints Bureau over his advice on the deal.

The purchase is the subject of a legal action served on Oasis and four of its directors yesterday by Graham and Edwina Brown, who founded the chain with £400 in the 1970s and are demanding that the £210 million business should be sold back to them for just £1.5 million.

Michael Bennett, Oasis's chairman, said accusations that he and the other directors fraudulently or negligently gained control of the company five years ago were unfounded, but he would have to take legal advice on the legal basis of the claim by the Browns.

Peter Gold, former senior partner of Titmuss Sainer Dechert, the City lawyer, advised Pinecord, the company that owned Oasis until it went into receivership in January 1991.

The current management, led by Mr Bennett and his brother Maurice, then bought the group out of receivership for £1.5 million. Mr Gold advised them throughout the deal and Titmuss Sainer Dechert remains as lawyer to Oasis.

In a ruling made in January 1993, after a complaint by the Browns, Mr Gold was rebuked for two breaches of the Law Society's principles of professional conduct, mainly dealing with the conflict of interest between advising Pinecord and also giving advice to the Bennett brothers.

He appealed and the case has been referred to the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal, which has yet to deliver a final ruling.

Mr Gold has retired from Titmuss Sainer Dechert, but remains a consultant. John Hume, a senior partner at the firm, said it believed that Mr Gold would be cleared following the appeal.

Another complaint by the Browns against David Sarson, Oasis's finance director, alleging misconduct over the buyout, was thrown out by the Institute of Chartered Accountants last month.

Daimler under fire from shareholders

From Roger Boyes in Bonn

THE annual meeting of Daimler Benz, Germany's flagship industrial group, yesterday resembled a bear pit as angry shareholders taunted, criticised and abused the board for misleading promises and bungled management.

Daimler Benz failed to pay a dividend this year, for the first time since 1950, after announcing record losses of DM5.7 billion (£2.4 billion). But it was not merely the loss of a dividend that set the shareholders baying.

Edzard Reuter, chairman, promised last year that Daimler would improve profits, or at least maintain 1994 levels, depending on currency fluctuations. But the company seemed to lurch from one crisis to another. It had to cut 8,800 jobs from its aerospace division, dismantle and dispose of the AEG group and withdraw from Fokker, the Dutch aeroplane manufacturer.

Herr Reuter resigned but that has done little to calm the shareholders, 9,000 of whom crowded into the Schleyer Hall in Stuttgart. Professor Ekkehard Wenger led the assault. He has already asked the Stuttgart prosecutor to press charges against Herr Reuter and other members of the board for breaking paragraph 400 of the Share Trading Law, which provides for a possible three-year jail sentence against a board member who misleads or conceals information from shareholders.

More than 30 critical motions were tabled before the meeting began and shareholders were told to limit their speeches to 15 minutes each.

The Daimler revolt seems to signal the beginning of a new trend in Germany. There is already a Union of Critical Shareholders, which concentrates on criticising ecologically unsound projects, human rights records, and involvement in arms deals.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Alliance & Leicester to close 450 agencies

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER, the building society which plans to become a £25 billion bank next spring, announced the closure of more than 450 agencies that serve local and rural communities, but its branch network will remain unaffected. The society, which also owns Girobank, and plans to pay three million qualifying members an average of £900 worth of free shares when it becomes a stock market company, said yesterday that of the 475 agents operating throughout the UK, only 50 would be retained. Alliance & Leicester added that the remaining agents would be given three months' notice, setting a closure date of late August.

The closure of the agencies will affect tens of thousands of customers who cannot travel to the nearest branch and is seen as part of the deck-clearing needed to become a leaner operation prior to flotation next year. The society said that to update the agents' technology would require a multimillion-pound investment programme that could not be justified. Kevin Southwood, managing director of Alliance & Leicester's personal financial services, said: "We recognise that the closure of agencies will cause some inconvenience in the short term and we would like to apologise unreservedly for this."

Gas repeats complaint

BRITISH GAS yesterday used the launch of a national helpline for gas leaks to further press its case against the pricing formula for its pipeline business proposed by Ofgas, the regulator. But while the company, which claims that 10,000 jobs could be lost if the price plans, from Clare Spottiswoode, go ahead, reiterated its fears over safety of the system, Ian Powe, director of the Gas Consumers Council, said: "We do wish British Gas would stop frightening the public in a premature attempt to dissuade Ofgas from its proposals for tighter price controls."

Pattullo's stake worry

SIR Bruce Pattullo, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, has written to shareholders expressing concern about plans by Standard Life, the bank's biggest shareholder, to sell some or all of its 32.2 per cent stake. In a letter with the bank's annual report, he says: "The whole issue of whether or not Standard Life sells any of its holding of ordinary stock, and if so how, is naturally a matter of great concern." The report, for the year to February 29, shows that Sir Bruce's remuneration of £389,000 included £39,000 from profit sharing and a £65,000 bonus.

Four on HMSO shortlist

FOUR bidders have been shortlisted as potential buyers of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO), the Government's printer, publisher and stationery and office equipment supplier. They are Capita Group, in partnership with 3i and Mercury Asset Management; a Hambros consortium; National Publishing Group, a consortium led by Electra Fleming; and Westminster Information Systems, led by NatWest Ventures. HMSO is based in Norwich and employs about 2,900 people. There were 14 indicative bids.

Ruling could free £3bn

A RULING by the House of Lords yesterday could release up to £3 billion of insurance claims which have been frozen in the London reinsurance market. The ruling, which upheld an earlier judgment by the Court of Appeal, deals with the issue of "pay as paid". This requires insurance companies to pay out only their underlying claims before they can collect any reinsurance. However, in the case of collapsed insurance companies, their only assets are their reinsurance policies and they need to collect the funds first in order to pay out money owed.

Royal & Sun details

SHAREHOLDERS in Royal Insurance and the Sun Alliance Group have been sent documents outlining the structure of their proposed merger, which will create Britain's biggest insurance group. The new company will be called Royal & Sun Alliance Group plc. Royal shareholders, offered 1,067 Royal Sun Alliance shares for every 1,000 Royal shares, will be asked to approve the merger at an extraordinary meeting on 14 June. The £5.4 billion merger is also subject to approval from a separate court hearing and the European Commission.

Baggeridge pegs payout

BAGGERIDGE BRICK, the building materials company, is holding the interim dividend at 0.75p a share after suffering a downturn in profits to £724,000 before tax in the half-year to March 31 from £2.13 million. Earnings fell to 1.19p a share from 3.56p. The company blamed the continuing recession in the construction industry and the sluggish housing market, and said the harsh winter had hit demand for bricks. The board remains cautious over future prospects. The shares fell 2p to 108p.

Acquisition lifts Jarvis

SHARES in Jarvis rose 25p to 89p after the building and civil engineering group unveiled a big expansion with the £9 million acquisition of British Rail's Northern Infrastructure Maintenance Company (NimCo) based in York. Jarvis also announced a placing of 40.5 million new shares, at 58p each, to raise about £21.7 million through a 19-for-20 placing and open offer to fund the purchase and provide about £10 million for working capital needs. Jarvis plans a capital reorganisation to enable it to resume paying dividends.

Recs censured on codes

THREE regional electricity companies (Recs) have been censured by the industry regulator over their customer codes of conduct. Professor Stephen Littlechild singled out Northern Electric, ScottishPower and Manweb — which is owned by ScottishPower — for failing to produce codes of practice. He said: "This shows a disappointing lack of concern for their customers. I am pressing these companies to complete their work in the near future." Professor Littlechild spoke after endorsing codes for seven other companies.

P&O arm wins £250m contract for Shanghai

P&O's Bovis Asia Pacific subsidiary has won the biggest construction management contract so far awarded in China. The £250 million project is for a mixed use development in Shanghai consisting of a 50-storey office tower and two 22-storey residential blocks over shops.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, who is heading a trade mission to China, and Zhao Qi Zhen, vice-mayor of Shanghai. Mr Heseltine and the vice-mayor also took part in the opening of the new Shanghai office of the P&O group and Bovis Asia Pacific.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.00	1.84
Austria Sch	17.41	15.91
Belgium Fr	50.92	46.62
Canada $	2.181	2.021
Cyprus Cyp£	0.754	0.699
Denmark Kr	9.58	8.78
Finland Mkk	7.72	7.07
France Fr	8.31	7.68
Germany Dm	2.49	2.28
Greece Dr	384.00	359.00
Hong Kong $	12.34	11.34
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.3300	4.6800
Italy Lira	2468.00	2311.00
Japan Yen	175.90	159.90
Malta	0.589	0.534
Netherlds Gld	2.760	2.530
New Zealand $	2.36	2.14
Norway Kr	10.53	9.73
Portugal Esc	250.50	232.00
S Africa Rd	7.13	6.33
Spain Pta	201.00	188.00
Sweden Kr	10.91	10.11
Switzerland Fr	2.05	1.87
Turkey Lira	120843.	112843.
USA $	1.609	1.479

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

هكذا من الأصل

☐ Big wages essential to City's competitiveness ☐ MMC must halt Allders sale ☐ Will Sir Rocco's plans be thwarted?

A safe haven for heavy hitters

PENNINGTON

☐ BEST wishes to whichever lawyer takes the £700,000 on offer from Chadbourne & Peake, the American law firm looking for a heavy hitter to advise on project financing, but one wonders how long he or she will have to enjoy the money. We have all spent so long cosying up to new Labour that we may have lost sight of the full implications — at least for the City.

One of City analysts' duties today is to spot which sector of the market will do well under Tony Blair. But they may not have considered a matter rather closer to home, the effect on their own salaries. Labour has yet to put firm figures on its tax policies, but one must assume that the lawyer on £700,000 a year will be very much worse off. The party's mistake at the last election was to threaten punitive taxation on salaries around the £30,000 a year level that were regarded as modest in the areas of Britain Labour needed to capture, no matter how extravagant they might have seemed in its industrial heartland.

The decision at Walworth Road now is where to set the level above which earnings are punitively taxed. That £700,000 lawyer currently pays 40 per cent tax on almost all of it and takes home £35,000 a month. Assume 80 per cent taxation above the £100,000 level, not impossible under Labour, and this falls to a rather less appealing £15,000. The recipient will rub shoulders each day in the City with professionals on the same whack whose pay would likewise fall. This is the perception gap between the City and outside that new Labour is unable to bridge because of old loyalties. What appears an obscenity in Grimsby sounds like a normal wage on Gresham Street.

Much was made five years ago of the threat to London from Frankfurt and other Continental exchanges. This threat never materialised. Germany's share of world stock market business may have grown since, but this growth has been comfortably exceeded in the City.

Overseas securities houses, particularly American, have felt comfortable setting up in London because they have been able to remunerate big hitters almost as well as at home. London's success has been tacitly accepted by the Continentals, which is why the second Big Bang over the past couple of years has seen them, too, pitching more tents in London. Penalise high pay and Frankfurt looks rather more attractive.

Take a look across the Atlantic. In New York, successive mayors, Democrat and Republican and no matter the financial crises they faced, have never threatened Wall Street, because New York is every bit as much a one-industry town as some misbegotten Mid-West backwater with a big defence contractor in its midst. London is heading the same way. New York exists to allow young professionals to make sackloads of money. A City of London that cannot offer "obscene" wage packets is one that cannot hope to compete.

Cause to ground duty-free deal

☐ SWISSAIR'S attempt to break up BAA's cosy deal to buy the duty free business from Allders raises two serious questions. Allders seems happy to sell its business to BAA for £15 million less than Swissair is willing to pay. Why, and what do its shareholders think of this? And should BAA be allowed to buy it in the first place?

The deal was precipitated by BAA's decision six month ago to take all its duty free sales in-house. Concessions for selling supposedly cheap drink, cigarettes and perfumes had long gone to two retailers, Allders and Alpha Airports. But BAA told them it would either terminate their contracts or not renew them as they ran out. Allders decided to sell out. Alpha, whose contracts run out between now and 1999, said it would rather strike deals for other concessions with BAA.

Duty free within the European Union will supposedly end in 1999 (if there still is a European Union, Mr Major). But there is still the long haul business, and a rather lucrative one it is. Since being privatised ten years ago, BAA has survived one Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into its all-consuming position in the South East with the three main airports. Earlier this week the Commons Transport Select Committee suggested that BAA should be forced to sell Gatwick and Stansted.

BAA's trenchant reply was that airports are a world market. Customers and airlines have a choice of flying from London, Paris, Copenhagen or Kuala Lumpur. Hogwash. If you want to fly into London, the only possibly alternative is Luton, God forbid, unless you fancy Birmingham or Manchester (voted the world's favourite airport, by the way) and a drive back down the M6.

Not only does BAA own the airports, it will also own the duty free. If the Allders deal goes through, BAA will then have a near monopoly on duty free across the UK and large parts of Europe. Shareholders in Allders will no doubt see sense and back the higher Swissair bid. But what is needed is for the MMC to look into the whole issue of duty free and block BAA's deal with Allders before it has a chance of going through.

Turn and turn again for Granada

☐ WERE Gerry Robinson not so pragmatic a businessman, someone unwilling to hold a grudge where there is a profit to be made, it might be tempting to see the refusal to sell the Meridien hotels as his last revenge on Sir Rocco Forte for all those bitter words during the winter's takeover battle.

Sir Rocco had made it absolutely clear that the Meridien chain was central to his entire strategy and financing. Readers of this column may not be too surprised at the decision by Granada not to sell. Retention had always seemed an attractive option, given the cost savings available from the sort of management skills Granada could bring to bear, the booming state of the hotels market and the (relatively) comfortable level of interest cover Granada is looking at this financial year despite its £3.6 billion of debt.

Yesterday's formal announcement should have come as bad news to Sir Rocco and his aides perched incongruously above their former public relations adviser as they complete the necessary financing package. But there is the truth and there is the striking of a bargaining position, on both sides it seems.

Mr Robinson has now changed his mind twice, initially planning to keep the hotels, then aiming to sell them to assuage City concerns about debt and now willing to keep Meridien at least. He might turn yet again, for a profit. And Sir Rocco's ambitions in hotels might not be so easily thwarted either.

Lucky break

☐ THE National Lottery has been accused of any number of crimes — cannibalism, incest, mass starvation, no doubt, this week alone. But it is hard to see how it can have wiped a quarter of a billion pounds, or almost 40 per cent, off the value of William Hill's betting shops. More likely that George Walker's creation, which now comprises the betting shops and a chain of pubs, has taken the opportunity of the Lottery to write down the bookies to rather closer to what they are worth ahead of an eventual sale.

Courtaulds blames price instability for decline

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Howard Evans, finance director, left, and Sipko Huismans

By Paul Durman

COURTAULDS has forecast that sales of Tencel, the "wonder fibre" on which it has pinned many of its hopes for the future, will be running at about £265 million a year by the end of next year.

Tencel moved into profit last year on estimated sales of about £50 million. Courtaulds has brought forward plans for a third Tencel plant in Grimsby, Humberside, that will increase its capacity to nearly 100,000 tonnes a year.

Gordon Campbell, who replaces Sipko Huismans as the company's chief executive after next month's annual meeting, said that demand continues to outstrip production capacity. Tencel, which, the company claims, feels like silk but is as tough as denim, is being used in clothes for Marks & Spencer, Next, Jaeger and many others.

Mr Campell suggested that Tencel may represent 20 per cent of the group's total sales, currently £2.3 billion, by 2003. Courtaulds has invested about £250 million in Tencel.

The company was reporting a 13 per cent decline in annual pre-tax profits, to £131 million. Mr Huismans blamed the wildly gyrating prices of key raw materials, acrylonitrile and woodpulp, which doubled and then collapsed back to the original levels within a year.

Mr Huismans said this "intolerable" instability caused ordering delays for acrylics and viscose. Courtaulds had held on to its market share, however, while in the past, such price shocks would have produced "near total wipe-outs", he said. Courtaulds wants to prevent a repeat, and is trying to tie its suppliers into longer term contracts.

Profits from the fibres and chemicals business fell from £79 million to £58 million. The coatings and sealants arm increased profits by £10 million, to £71 million, helped by a debut contribution of £4 million from Mehnert & Veeck, of Germany. Mr Campbell expects increased production by aerospace manufacturers to produce another good year for its business-making sealants to prevent fuel leaking out of aeroplanes.

Demand for Courtaulds' powder coatings in the Asia-Pacific region remained strong, and the company is building new factories in China and Korea. Total Far East profits fell £2 million, to £13 million, on sales of £165 million.

Polymer products, a division that includes performance films and toothpaste packaging, made £19 million (£20 million). Results were hit by problems moving a US factory. A final dividend of 11.6p increases the total to 15.9p a share (15.4p).

Crest on target for July

MIDWAY through testing, Crest, the new electronic share settlement system that is due to replace the Stock Exchange's existing Talisman system, is still on track to go live on July 15 (Philip Pangalos writes).

The system is now being tested by 260 firms across the UK and Ireland. The transition, which is being supervised by the Bank of England, will begin on July 22, with the first settlement in Crest due to take place on August 19. The transition period is due to end next April.

The Crest system will have cost about £25 million from August 1993 to the time it is implemented. Total finance is £29 million, with the balance required to see Crest through until it starts to make money next year.

Lottery forces writedown in William Hill value

By Martin Barrow

BRENT WALKER, the troubled leisure company, has written down the value of its William Hill betting shop chain by almost 39 per cent, blaming the impact of competition from the National Lottery (see Pennington, this page).

The company said the writedown, which reduces the book value of William Hill by £267.9 million to £427.9 million, reflected a severe decline in the profitability of the betting shops.

In 1995, William Hill's profits fell by one third to £38.7 million despite stringent cost controls put in place to limit the damage caused by the lottery and by Instants scratchcards, which were introduced in March 1995.

After intense lobbying by the betting industry, the Government agreed to reduce betting duty by one percentage point to 6.75 per cent from March 1996. However, Sir Brian Goswell, chairman of Brent Walker, said yesterday the reduction in betting duty was not sufficient "to redress the many competitive advantages of the National Lottery" and the betting industry would lobby for further cuts in duty.

Sir Brian said: "It is still difficult to ascertain the effect of the National Lottery as we do not know whether this has now reached its peak or whether the possible introduction of a midweek draw will cause a further decrease in the turnover of betting shops."

The hefty writedown weighed heavily on Brent Walker's 1995 results, which revealed losses of £414.5 million (£142.7 million). Turnover was little changed at £1.66 billion, against £1.69 billion. Sir Brian said the group "remains in an uncertain financial position". Brent Walker has debts of around £1.4 billion and, after a refinancing that was put in place in 1994, is again in talks with its bankers to secure its future beyond 1997.

Brent Walker also owns Pubmaster, one of the country's largest independent pub estates, which lifted profits to £16.3 million last year from £13.3 million previously, largely thanks to a reduction in rents payable. The value of the pub estate has also been written down by £17.9 million.

In total £305.2 million has been written off the carrying value of assets, increasing the deficit on shareholders' funds to £1.198 billion after an interest charge of £160 million for the year.

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Land Securities raises payout but profits fall

By Carl Mortished

LAND SECURITIES has again raised its dividend, in spite of another year of pressure on its earnings from the property group's £435 million development programme.

The payout for the full year is up 1p to 26p, although earnings per share fell from 34.56p to 33.92p in the year to March 31, reducing dividend from 1.4 times to 1.3 times. Pretax profits fell by 3 per cent to £238 million, a better result than forecast by the City. Land Securities said yesterday that it expected the dividend cover to fall further in the current year but indicated that the payout was fully supported by positive cashflow.

Land Securities' portfolio diminished in value by 1 per cent, causing net asset value to drop 2p to 691p. The March revaluation showed a fall of 4.3 per cent in the City of London, and 4.7 per cent in industrial property. West End property values grew by 0.5 per cent, while retail warehouses rose 3.7 per cent.

Land Securities' building programme is half complete. The new buildings will bring an extra £45 million in rents.

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Floated Saks soars as buyers back luxury

From Richard Thomson in New York

SHARES in Saks Fifth Avenue, the upmarket Manhattan clothes store, soared to a hefty premium when trading began after its flotation, even though Saks has made big losses in the past five years.

Priced at $25, the shares rose $10, to $35, in early trading yesterday as Saks's high-quality name attracted buyers in spite of the fact that last year the company reported a $64 million net loss. The share issue raised $360 million.

The success of the Saks offering mirrors Wall Street's enthusiasm for other luxury retailers. Earlier this week, Gucci, the fashion and leather retailer, announced a surge in first-quarter sales of 113 per cent. The shares rose sharply, to $70.50, against an issue price of $22 last October.

Other companies to have issued shares in recent months include Donna Karan, the clothes designer and Estée Lauder, the cosmetics group. Their share prices have soared as investors rushed into what is widely seen as one of the most buoyant stock market sectors.

Saks, owned from 1973 to 1990 by BAT Industries, the British tobacco group, is now owned by Investcorp.

Shares at Chrysalis take wing

By Eric Reguly

Pauline Quirke, star of *The Sculptress*

CHRYSALIS has become something like the British Biotech of the media and music industry. It makes no profits and yet its shares are soaring on the expectation that all the spending on risky projects will eventually turn to gold.

Investors show no sign of losing faith in the Chrysalis dream in spite of the deeper interim losses reported yesterday. The shares, which have doubled in the past year, rose 38p to 523p. The reason for the optimism, apparently, is that Chrysalis has reached a turning point. Chris Wright, the chairman and 48 per cent owner, said that the change in the company's focus from leisure to multimedia is on the verge of paying dividends.

Mr Wright, who is as well-known for his lavish pay as his talent for producing programmes such as *The Sculptress* and *Crocodile Shoes*, said the company will actually make a profit within two years.

Chrysalis is concentrating on building an empire virtually from scatch. Mr Wright has started a new record label called Echo, which he claims is "poised to make a commercial breakthrough" even though it has not attracted the hottest new talent. Its latest recruits are banks by the name of Moloko and BabyBird.

He is also launching radio stations, among them Heart 106.2 in London, and is bidding for several licences. There is a new film company, Chrysalis Films, whose first release, *Stiff Upper Lips*, is coming out later this year. If the new films and the recording artists are successes, Chrysalis could break into profit earlier than expected.

In the half year to February 29, Chrysalis reported a pre-tax loss of £2.86 million, against a loss to £2.49 million in the previous period, on turnover of £56.3 million, up 20 per cent. Mr Wright said the losses were in line with expectations.

The loss per share after taxation and minority interests was 9.35p, compared to 9.92p. No interim dividend was payable and the company said it would announce the final dividend along with the year-end results in the autumn. In spite of the losses, Chrysalis said it could fund a major expansion of its radio interests. The company has £25 million in cash and has no plans for a rights issue.

Worries hit the utilities to lead equities lower

Sir Ian Prosser, right, and Richard North, finance director, of Bass: The share rose 20p on first-half results

GROWING political and regularity worries took their toll on utility companies, leaving brokers wondering if the privatisation gravy train is finally slowing down.

Leading the electricity companies lower was the **National Grid**, 6p off at 177½p, ahead of publication of the regulators' price formula. If it is even half as tough as proposals suggested by the gas regulator for British Gas, a fresh wave of selling is likely.

The rest of the electricity sector lost ground, still uncertain what steps an incoming Labour government would introduce. **East Midlands** fell 11p to 590p, **London** 27p to 702p, **Southern** 13½p to 747p, **PowerGen** 12p to 517p and **National Power** 8p to 520p.

The water companies also had a worried look as they continued to reflect on this week's decision to refer bids by **Severn Trent**, down 13p at 546p, and **Wessex**, unchanged at 302p, for **South West Water**, 8p lower at 651p, to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Other losers included **Anglian Water**, down 17p to 518p, **United Utilities**, down 10p to 548p, and **Yorkshire**, down 12p to 619p.

The rest of the equity market suffered sharp falls, with investors becoming increasingly nervous about the Government's tough stance against the European beef ban. Sharp falls in government bonds combined with a sell-off in the financial future added to the market's woes. An opening fall on Wall Street left the FT-SE 100 index nursing a deficit of 25.2 points at 3,764.2 as turnover reached 804 million shares.

There was further heavy turnover in **Railtrack** as the price slipped 1½p to 219p. BZW has issued a covered warrant in Railtrack amounting to 25 million shares, issued at 21p. The issue was oversubscribed.

Evidence of an all-round increase in first-quarter sales at **Kingfisher**, the Woolworth, Comet, Superdrug and B&Q stores group, was rewarded with a rise of 12p to 620p. Brokers were impressed with a positive performance from B&Q, the group's struggling DIY arm.

Kingfisher told shareholders that overall sales were up almost 11 per cent to £1.24 billion and were up 6.4 per cent on a like-for-like basis. But with the group heavily dependent on the second half, few brokers were ready to raise their year-end forecasts.

Easy come, easy go, seems to be the motto at **British Biotechnology** as the shares gave up all of Tuesday's sharp gains. The price succumbed to profit-taking, ending 250p lower at £30.65 on turnover of less than one million shares. They almost touched £38 at one stage this week. Other biotech issues were marked lower, with **Chiroscience** dropping 30p to 475p, **Cortecs International**, 11p to 353p, **Scotia Holdings** 35p to 730p and **Celltech** 25p to 653p.

Park Foods Group, the food hamper distributor, reacted to Tuesday's belated news of a bid approach with a rise of 11p at 100p. Brokers were expressing scepticism about the likely success of the bid by Stuart Marks, a former director of Park. At these levels Park Foods is capitalised at £145 million.

Better than expected half-year figures sent shares of **Bass**, whose chairman is Sir Ian Prosser, climbing 20p to 788p. Pre-tax profits grew from £263 million to £289 million, forcing analysts to upgrade full-year estimates. Merrill Lynch, the broker, has increased its final number by £9 million to £665 million. The group shed no light on speculation of interest in Allied Domecq's 50 per cent stake in the Carlsberg-Tetley joint venture. **Allied** fell 6p to 479p.

Sims Foods is one casualty of "mad cow" disease, which has caused plant closures, layoffs and short-time working. As a result the group has been forced to break off talks about the disposal of its retail division. Beef sales have now recovered 85 per cent. The shares were unchanged at 33p.

Courtaulds, the chemicals group, touched 407p before rebounding to end the day 7p better at 422p on the back of some optimistic remarks to brokers about current trading that accompanied an otherwise gloomy set of figures. Pre-tax profits were 13 per cent lower at £131 million, with the group squeezed by a combination of falling demand and rising raw material costs.

Blue Circle Industries firmed 3p to 364p despite some cautious comments about current trading. Cement volumes at home during the early months of 1996 have fallen, depressed by severe weather conditions. Sir Peter Walters, chairman, said he was confident of market recovery.

Jarvis, the construction group, returned from suspension at 93p after announcing plans to spend £9 million acquiring British Rail's northern infrastructure maintenance division. To help to finance the deal Jarvis is arranging a placing and open offer of 40.54 million shares at 58p, raising £21.7 million. Shares of Jarvis closed 25p dearer at 89p.

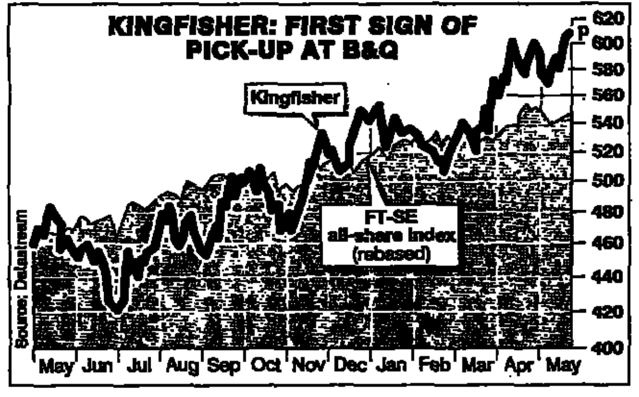
A bullish statement about trading conditions for the building industry in the US lifted **Williams Holdings** 5p to 336p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Investors were beating a retreat in early trading as prices reacted nervously to the late setback for US treasury bonds overnight. The market's composure was soothed later in the session by a big buyer of longer dated issues that pared earlier losses. In the event, the market closed with small losses on the day.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt finished £3/16 down at £106¼ as a total of 60,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues, treasury 8 per cent 2015 slipped £3/16 at £97 5/32, while at the shorter end treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a couple of ticks easier at £102 3/16.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares on Wall Street came under pressure from profit-takers and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 7.76 points lower at 5,728.50.

National Westminster Bank fell 12p to 627p after NatWest Securities, its own broking arm, reduced its profit forecast by £100 million, to £1.26 million. It blames the move on the higher than expected cost of restructuring its branches and recommends clients switch into rival Barclays Bank, 6p easier at 776p.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	5728.50 (-7.76)
S&P Composite	672.71 (-0.05)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	21958.00 (-133.74)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	11082.79 (-5.98)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	561.31 (-0.53)
Sydney:	
AO	2244.1 (+1.2)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2556.87 (-13.91)
Singapore:	
Straits	2313.02 (+2.86)
Brussels:	
General	9401.61 (+50.47)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2103.49 (-26.22)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	782.40 (-5.70)
London:	
FT 30	2799.0 (-16.3)
FT 100	3764.2 (-25.2)
FT-SE Mid 250	4512.3 (-16.9)
FT-SE-A 350	1906.9 (-11.5)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1687.92 (-8.92)
FT A All-Share	1892.50 (-10.86)
FT Non Financials	2013.56 (-9.15)
FT Fixed Interest	112.10 (-0.10)
FT Govt Secs	92.29 (-0.36)
Bargains	34579
SEAQ Volume	820.0m
USM (Datastrm)	221.51 (-0.29)
US$	1.5103 (-0.0032)
German Mark	2.3237 (-0.0095)
Exchange Index	84.6 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2184
£:SDR	1.0502
RPI	152.6 Apr (2.4%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	152.0 Apr (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AIM Trust	101	...
Aberforth Co (100)	102	...
Active Imaging	116	...
Atlantis Japan Gwth	687	+ 1½
Biocomparibles Uts	133	- 2
CA Coutts (105)	120	...
Cairngorm BS IT Ut	925	...
Cap for Co's VCT (100)	94	...
Emtech	43	+ 5
FNR	39	...
Gartmore Select Jap	93	- 1
Hercules Prop Svcs	60	...
INVESCO Eng Int C	101	...
Just Group	4½	...
La Senza (150)	155	- 1
Luminar	256	+ 1
MSB International	242	...
Maiden Group	275	...
Millnm & Cop (278)	341	+ 2
Premiere Group	139	...
Railtrack (190)	219	- 1½
Reflec	66	...
Stentor	93	...
Taiwan Inv Tst C	96	...
Thomas Potts	10	...
Tom Hoskins	53	...
Vanguard Med (450)	620	+ 2
Waterfall (45)	50	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Porter Chadburn n/p	6	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Park Foods	100p (+11p)
Denby Group	243p (+19p)
Chrysalis	523p (+38p)
Sage Group	459p (+19p)
Bass	788p (+20p)
Osborne & Little	540p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Whessoe	134p (-38p)
Chiroscience	475p (-30p)
Hozelock	510p (-25p)
Scotia	730p (-35p)
Liberty	355p (-15p)
Bank Scotland	268p (-11p)
Celltech	653p (-25p)
Cortecs	353p (-11p)
Gen Accident	672p (-16p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Bass ambitions

FAT with profits and cash flowing into its coffers, Bass has been lapping up the speculation over its next acquisitive move. The brewing and leisure company has been linked with almost every underperforming brewer, hotel and betting shop in Britain.

But the company is under no pressure to buy anything. Bass produced a very creditable performance from its own operations in the half year. The hotels, soft drinks and managed taverns division all performed strongly but it was in the weaker brewing and general leisure businesses that the profits advance was especially impressive.

Bass wants to see further consolidation in the brewing industry, a not-very-secret code for its ambitions to buy Carlsberg-Tetley, although it is less than certain that the OFT, or Carlsberg, are going to let Bass have its way. However, Bass still looks capable of achieving further profits growth, albeit slowly, in its brewing division, as it tilts the brand mix towards premium beers and begins to secure toeholds in China and the Czech Republic.

Profits slumped 17 per cent in the leisure division although much of the decline took place in the first quarter, when betting was again hit by bad weather. However, betting and bingo operations have now got the measure of the lottery and can begin to fight back. Forthcoming deregulation in the bingo industry and a strong sporting summer should help restore the division to fitness.

Bass shares are trading on a forward multiple of around 16. That is not especially cheap, but with the luxury of a war chest and healthy core businesses, Bass looks a solid bet.

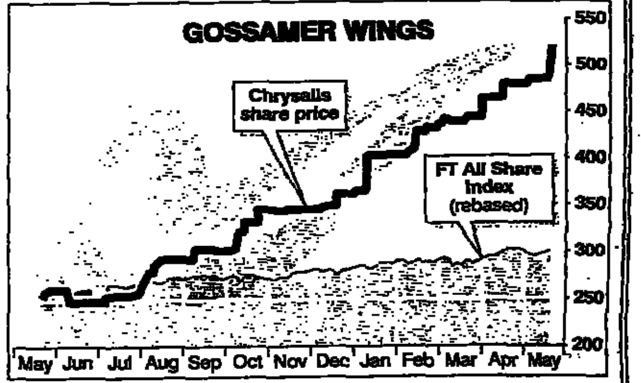
Chrysalis

DEFINED as the final stage of a lepidopterous insect before it becomes a perfectly formed insect, Chrysalis is also a media company. However, the City is ignoring both dictionary definition and trading record; the share price of Chrysalis is blowing upwards like a butterfly caught in a warm thermal.

However, for investors to believe that this creature will survive the first frost, they need to rely on something more substantial than hot air. Chrysalis has yet to produce a bottom-line profit or a dividend. Just when profits look imminent, Chrysalis launches a new record label or radio station, such as Heart in London, which is costing the group £1.75 million in promotion costs.

Valuing such a beast is tricky; the stock market has put a price of £140 million on the company, but forecasters reckon that Chrysalis will chalk up another £4 million loss next year with profits a year out. That assumes the company does not launch another radio station.

Some support comes from the music library but capitalisng the royalty income produces a value of £55 million. That puts pressure on radio to generate good profits quickly. The company has plenty of cash to carry on but investors might take a cue from Sir David Puttnam, a Chrysalis director, who sold some shares yesterday. After all, a chrysalis is a transient thing destined to be broken up.



Courtaulds

SIPKO HUISMANS, departing chief executive of Courtaulds, leaves behind a legacy as mixed as the company's recent profit record. On the credit side, he has single-mindedly seized the opportunity offered by Tencel, a revolutionary fibre with seemingly limitless growth prospects. On the debit side, investors have seen little to show for the investment, the shares having underperformed the FT All-Share index by nearly 50 per cent since 1992.

Courtaulds believes that its recent victory in the Tencel patent dispute with Lenzing of Austria marks a turning point. Meanwhile, raw material prices have returned to normal and the expected pickup in aircraft manufacture is good news for the group's sealants business. Its powder coating and performance films businesses are growing strongly. And demand for Tencel continues to outstrip growth in capacity.

Yesterday's 13 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £131 million was a creditable performance in the face of wildly volatile raw material prices. The challenge for Courtaulds is to turn Tencel from a niche upmarket product into a mass consumer brand. The worry is that, with the exception of powders and the still diminutive Far East business, Courtaulds has few other irons in the fire.

The market expects profits of £160 million this year, a demanding 40 per cent jump from the previous year. Further out, shareholders are betting on Tencel and must hope Mr Huismans was right.

Land Securities

LAND SECURITIES results are always deceptively dull. The property company beat market expectations, but the real interest yesterday was the sight of the largest property group in Britain trying to position itself in a world that is cruel to property investors.

Land Securities owns too many older office buildings — a product showing nil rental growth — and its high street shops are being squeezed by large shopping centres. The company is redressing the balance with development — new hi-tech buildings are still in demand — but a £400 million development programme is still less than 10 per cent of the Land Securities portfolio.

In a low-growth, low-inflation world, the pure office property investor will see little gain because rents will rise slowly, if at all.

The prizes will go to those developers with the right products and those clever investors in higher-yielding industrial properties. However, much of the property market is stuck with offices ten to 20 years old, many of which should be depreciated, if not pulled down.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	1063-1012	Jul	1057 SLR
Jul	1085-1084	Sep	1063 BID
Sep	1109-1108	Dec	1078-1075
Dec	1043-1042	Mar	1090-1085
Mar	1035-1034		
May	1045-1044		Volume: 7734

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	1950-1920	Jan	1815-1812
Jul	1850-1849	Mar	1790-1780
Sep	1840-1835	May	1770-1750
Nov	1639-1638		Volume: 3993

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	331.0-30.0
Spot 394.5		May	329.4-28.1
Aug	378.0-77.0	Aug	328.9-26.1
Oct	347.0-46.0	Oct	315.0-11.5
Dec	335.3-34.2		Volume: 1844

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 21

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	127.05	113.24	96.29
(+/-)	+9.22	-17.89	-4.20
Eng/Wales:	127.59	145.04	96.22
(+/-)	+9.18	-9.31	-3.97
(%)	+11.0	-7.0	-5.0
Scotland:	119.17	142.64	96.51
(+/-)	+11.90	-39.99	-5.02
(%)	+35.0	-6.0	+6.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.60	+1.00
Brent 15 day (Jul)	19.05	+0.65
Brent 15 day (Aug)	18.40	+0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	21.35	+0.80
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	20.25	+0.55

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	220 (-7)	222 (-7)
Gasoil EEC	176 (+2)	180 (+4)
3.5 Fuel Oil	91 (-6)	93 (-6)
Naphtha	184 (+1)	186 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jun	169.25-69.50	Sep	163.50-63.75
Jul	165.00-65.25	Oct	163.50 BID
Aug	163.50-63.75		Vol: 15679

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jul	18.96-19.00	Oct	17.70 SLR
Aug	18.34-18.35	Nov	17.35-17.50
Sep	17.89-17.92		Vol: 37652

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	127.75	May	113.00
Jul	129.75	Sep	108.00
Sep	115.00	Nov	109.90
Nov	116.75	Jan	112.25
Jan	118.65	Mar	114.00
Volume: 240		Volume: 82	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Jun	unq	225.0
Nov	–	82.5
Mar	–	110.0
		Volume: 32

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)
May 104.75-105.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 96	—	—	1378
Jun 96	1280	1275	1280
Jul 96	1245	1230	1235
Oct 96	1348	1335	1335
Vol: 123 lots		Open Interest: 4576	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2448.0-2450.0	3mth: 2375.0-2378.0	Vol: 2957500
Lead ($/tonne)	834.50-835.50	830.00-832.00	200900
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1030.5-1031.0	1057.0-1057.5	377850
Tin ($/tonne)	6180.0-6190.0	6215.0-6225.0	35670
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1539.0-1539.5	1572.0-1572.5	1960300
Nickel ($/tonne)	7725.0-7735.0	7835.0-7840.0	105450

TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
Alld Dom	460	28½	42	48	6½	11	19½
(*478)	500	8½	22	27	24	30½	40
Argyll	330	16	24½	31	9½	15	19½
(*343½)	360	4	11½	17½	29	32½	36
ASDA	120	5½	8½	11	4½	7	9
(*120)	130	2	4½	7	11	13½	14½
Boots	600	19½	33½	42	15	24	29½
(*611½)	650	2½	13½	21	52	56½	59½
Br Airways	550	25½	38	47	13	20½	26
(*569½)	600	5½	15½	24	45	49½	53½
BP	550	35½	45	53	5½	12	17
(*575½)	600	8½	18½	27½	28½	35½	41
Br Steel	160	19	20½	22	2½	5	7
(*178)	180	5	8½	11½	11½	14	17
C & W	420	41½	50½	60½	4½	12½	17½
(*458½)	460	15½	27½	38	19	28½	34½
CU	600	28½	38	-51	11½	24	28½
(*612½)	650	7	16	26½	41	54	57½
ICI	850	37	53	70	14½	31	37
(*865)	900	14	29	46	42	58½	63½
Land Sec	600	41½	43½	50	5½	10	15½
(*640½)	680	5	16	23½	32½	35	40
M & S	460	10	20½	27½	14½	19½	24
(*462½)	500	1	7½	12½	47½	48½	50½
Nat West	600	40	49	63	7½	21	26½
(*636)	650	13½	25	38	31½	46½	52½
Sainsbury	360	24½	34½	39½	3½	7½	11½
(*378½)	390	8	17½	23	16	20½	25
Shell	900	46½	61	71	7	18	21½
(*933½)	950	16½	31	42½	27	41	44
Smkl Bch	638	38	52	—	9½	21	—
(*659)	687	14	28½	—	34½	46½	—
Storehse	330	14	23	—	11	16½	—
(*333½)	360	3½	10½	—	31½	35	—
Trafalgar	50	1	1½	—	0½	0½	—
(*50½)	60	0	0	—	9½	9½	—
Zeneca	1350	76½	111	140	26½	51	65½
(*1367½)	1400	48	81½	113½	49	74	88½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Jan	Aug	Nov	Jan
BAT Ind	500	25	34	42	23	30½	33
(*501½)	550	7½	15½	22	58	63	64½
Vodafone	240	18	25½	28	8	15	17½
(*247½)	260	9	16	19	19½	25½	28
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	420	33	41	47½	9½	13	19
(*443)	460	12	21	27½	29½	33	39
Ladbroke	180	20	22	27½	8	11½	14½
(*188½)	200	9½	13	18	19	22	25
Utd Bisc	220	18	22	26	8	11	13
(*227)	240	8½	12½	16½	18½	21½	23½

May 22, 1996 Tot: 46118 Call: 21655 Put: 24463 FT-SE Call: 4766 Put: 11983
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
BAA	460	41½	49	54	3	6½	11
(*499½)	500	13	24	29	16½	21½	26½
Thames W	500	43	46½	49	6	12½	17
(*541½)	550	8	18	24	32½	38	42½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	280	19	23	27	5	10	11½
(*290½)	300	8	12½	16½	14	20½	21½
Br Aero	850	70½	87	105	14	25	31
(*895)	900	38	58	76½	33½	46	52½
Br Telecm	330	20	23	26	12½	16	21½
(*339½)	360	6	10	13½	33	35½	40
Cadbury	460	37	44½	54	10½	16½	19½
(*479½)	500	16	25	33½	30	36½	39½
Guinness	460	29½	37	45½	9	16	18½
(*474½)	500	9½	17½	25	30½	37	37½
GEC	330	32	36½	40	5	9	12
(*357½)	360	12	19	24	18½	22½	26
Hanson	180	14½	18	20½	3½	7	10
(*192½)	200	4½	8½	11½	14	17½	21
LASMO	160	23½	29	30½	2½	4	4
(*179½)	180	10½	15	18	8	10½	11
Lucas	220	24½	29½	29½	8½	15½	17½
(*230½)	240	14½	19½	20	18½	25½	27
Pilkngtn	191	15½	—	—	5½	—	—
(*201)	210	6½	—	—	16	—	—
Prudential	420	22	30	38½	14½	21½	24½
(*423)	460	6½	13½	21	39½	45½	47½
Redland	390	33	40½	46	8½	13½	16½
(*409½)	420	16½	24½	30½	21½	28	31
R-Royce	220	19	24½	30	7	10½	13½
(*229)	240	9	15	20	17	20½	23½
Tesco	280	18½	25	29½	7½	13½	15
(*287)	300	9	15½	20	18½	24	25
Williams	330	17½	22	—	8	14	—
(*336)	360	5	9	—	26	32	—

FT-SE INDEX (*3764)

	3650	3700	3750	3800	3850	3900
Calls						
Jun	127½	88	53½	28	12	4
Jul	146½	110	79½	53	32	18
Aug	163	128	98	70	47½	30½
Sep	181½	149	117	92½	67½	50½
Dec	—	206	—	151½	—	104
Puts						
Jun	13	23½	41	66	101½	147
Jul	30	44	64½	87½	118½	155½
Aug	49	66	84	108	135	168½
Sep	64½	82	99	124½	150	187½
Dec	—	114½	—	159½	—	213½

	Series	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat	550	20½	35½	48	8	22	28½
(*561½)	600	2½	14	25½	40	52	57
Amstrad	160	8	16½	19	5½	10	13
(*160)	180	2	9	11½	20½	22½	25
Barclays	750	34	50½	63	6½	21½	27½
(*776)	800	7½	24	38	29	48½	53
Blue Circ	360	12	23½	30½	8½	16½	22
(*363½)	390	2	11	17½	28	34	39
Br Gas	160	19	24½	27½	1	3½	7
(*177)	180	6	13	16½	7½	11	16½
Dixons	500	16	29½	42	11	25	29½
(*503½)	550	1½	11	21	47	57	59½
Forte	343	29½	33½	—	0	0½	—
(*372)	373	6½	13	—	2½	7	—
Tarmac	120	5½	11	15	4	8	11
(*121)	130	2	7	9	10½	13½	17
Hillsdwn	160	16½	21	23½	0	3	5
(*175½)	180	3½	8½	11½	6½	10	13
Lonrho	180	11½	15½	20	1½	6	8½
(*189)	200	2	6	10½	12	16	17
Sears	90	7½	11	12	0½	1½	3½
(*96½)	100	1½	5	6½	4½	6	8
Thorn	1800	56½	101	139	35	77	94½
(*1812½)	1900	22	59½	94½	100	137½	153
Tomkins	240	20½	25½	28	0½	6½	8½
(*258½)	260	6½	13	16½	6½	15½	17½
Lloyds TSB	292	25½	—	—	1	—	—
(*314½)	322	6½	—	—	12	—	—
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Glaxo W	850	39	52	72	19	39	47½
(*865)	900	16	28½	49	46½	66½	75½
HSBC	950	61½	83	104½	17	35	45½
(*986½)	1000	32½	55½	78	37½	58½	69
Reuter	750	48½	65½	80½	15½	28½	37
(*774)	800	22½	40	55½	40½	53	59½
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Royal Ins	420	26½	35½	45½	9	19	24
(*433½)	460	9	17½	27	31	41	45½
	Series	Jul	Oct	Feb	Jul	Oct	Feb
Kingfishr	600	34	48½	65½	10	20	26½
(*619½)	650	9½	24	40½	36½	46	51½
	Series	Jul	Oct	Dec	Jul	Oct	Dec
Unilever	1200	53	78½	90	9½	20	25
(*1232½)	1250	23	46½	59½	30½	41	46
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr	500	27	31½	31½	7½	33½	36½
(*520)	550	4	9	11	31½	74	75
Scot Pwr	330	18	25	27	4	11½	13½
(*344)	360	3½	9	12	18½	29	31

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 63020	Jun 96	3782.0	3786.0	3756.0	3763.0	12394
	Sep 96	3789.0	3789.0	3773.0	3771.0	852
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 4141	Jun 96				4530.0	0
	Sep 96					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 367168	Jun 96	93.90	93.91	93.89	93.90	11069
	Sep 96	93.81	93.82	93.79	93.81	15931
	Dec 96	93.59	93.60	93.55	93.58	13558
Three Mth Euro Yen	Sep 96	99.14	99.14	99.14	99.15	170
	Dec 96	98.86	98.86	98.85	98.86	1195
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1110822	Jun 96	96.74	96.75	96.71	96.73	24938
	Sep 96	96.79	96.80	96.74	96.75	40243
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 124046	Jun 96	106-16	106-16	106-03	106-08	60702
	Sep 96	105-15	105-15	105-04	105-09	13339
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 96	119.37	119.47	119.33	119.47	1597
	Sep 96	118.31	118.41	118.25	118.40	2671
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 188994	Jun 96	96.86	97.02	96.62	96.70	183998
	Sep 96	95.97	96.07	95.76	95.80	13411
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 26356	Jun 96	95.66	95.67	95.64	95.64	1040
	Sep 96	95.76	95.78	95.73	95.74	419
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 66075	Jun 96	97.83	97.84	97.73	97.78	5867
	Sep 96	97.79	97.81	97.68	97.72	9318
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 72890	Jun 96	115.68	115.77	115.30	115.44	39888
	Sep 96	115.05	115.05	114.75	114.80	593

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 5½ Week fixed: 5 15/16
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅝; 3 mth 5 19/32. Sell: 2 mth 5 19/32; 3 mth 5 19/32.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 27/32-5¾	5⅞-5 27/32	5⅞-5 27/32	5⅞-5 27/32	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-5 15/16	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6 11/16-6 9/16
Interbank:	6⅛-5 15/16	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6 11/16-6 9/16

Overnight: open 6¼, close 5⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5 15/16	n/a	6	6⅛	6⅝
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-5 15/16	6⅛-5 15/16	6⅛-5 15/16	6⅛-6	6⅝-6½
Dollar CDs:	5.32	n/a	5.35	5.46	5.76
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-5 15/16	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6 11/16-6½

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-4 15/16	5⅜-5 5/16	5½-5⅜	5⅝-5½	5-4
Deutschemark:	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3¼-2¾
French Franc:	3⅞-3¾	3⅞-3 11/16	3 15/16-3 13/16	4-3⅞	4-3
Swiss Franc:	2¼-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2-1
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	⅝-½	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $391.00-391.30 Close: $391.40-391.90 High: $391.40-391.90
Low: $389.70-390.20 AM: $391.00 PM: $390.80

Krugerrand: $390.75-393.75 (£258.75-260.75)

Platinum: $396.75 (£262.75) Silver: $5.31 (£3.515) Palladium: $128.65 (£85.20)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 22	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5990-2.6078	2.5990-2.6011	¾-½pr	2½-2⅛pr
Brussels	47.78-47.96	47.78-47.81	14-9pr	39-32pr
Copenhagen	8.9705-9.0062	8.9705-8.9792	1⅝-1⅛pr	5¼-4⅜pr
Dublin	0.9680-0.9711	0.9684-0.9700	10-7pr	26-21pr
Frankfurt	2.3225-2.3325	2.3225-2.3247	¾-⅝pr	1⅞-1⅝pr
Lisbon	238.49-239.49	238.49-238.67	¼-¾ds	½-¾ds
Madrid	193.60-194.14	193.60-193.77	56-65ds	93-110ds
Milan	2351.5-2360.0	2351.5-2354.1	5-7ds	15-17ds
Montreal	2.0714-2.0765	2.0720-2.0738	0.27-0.19pr	0.52-0.41pr
New York	1.5096-1.5126	1.5098-1.5105	0.092-0.072pr	0.253-0.222pr
Oslo	9.9523-9.9881	9.9523-9.9682	1⅛-⅜pr	4⅛-3⅜pr
Paris	7.8677-7.8975	7.8677-7.8751	1⅝-1¼pr	4⅝-4⅛pr
Stockholm	10.264-10.422	10.393-10.311	⅛-⅜ds	⅛-⅜ds
Tokyo	161.40-161.84	161.40-161.62	⅞-⅝pr	2⅜-2⅛pr
Vienna	16.347-16.414	16.347-16.366	⅝-⅜pr	1¼-1pr
Zurich	1.9099-1.9196	1.9099-1.9123	⅝-⅜pr	2-1⅝pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2632-1.2640
Austria	10.84-10.85
Belgium (Com)	31.67-31.71
Canada	1.3718-1.3723
Denmark	5.9490-5.9520
France	5.2195-5.2225
Germany	1.5410-1.5415
Hong Kong	7.7348-7.7353
Ireland	1.5572-1.5587
Italy	1560.00-1560.75
Japan	107.00-107.05
Malaysia	2.4932-2.4942
Netherlands	1.7236-1.7241
Norway	6.6004-6.6041
Portugal	158.08-158.18
Singapore	1.4089-1.4094
Spain	128.31-128.35
Sweden	6.8230-6.8330
Switzerland	1.2674-1.2684

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5083-1.5109
Australia dollar	1.9042-1.9078
Bahrain dinar	0.5640-0.5760
Brazil real*	1.4751-1.4792
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7100-0.7200
Finland markka	7.0925-7.2085
Greece drachma	364.50-371.50
Hong Kong dollar	11.6718-11.6803
India rupee	52.45-53.41
Indonesia rupiah	3487.00-3555.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4485-0.4585
Malaysia ringgit	3.7622-3.7662
New Zealand dollar	2.2107-2.2144
Pakistan rupee	52.26 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4400-5.5000
Singapore dollar	2.1260-2.1282
S Africa rand (com)	6.5110-6.6130
U A E dirham	5.4900-5.6140

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	1,400	Land Secs	3,100
ASDA Gp	14,400	Legal & Gn	1,000
Abbey Ntl	1,200	Lloyds TSB	4,300
Allied Dom	2,600	Marks Spr	8,500
Argos	1,700	NatWst Bk	6,000
Argyll Gp	6,500	Nat Grid	12,900
AB Foods	1,200	Nat Power	5,400
BAA	9,100	P & O	2,200
BAT Inds	5,500	Pearson	984
BOC	1,400	Pilkington	2,700
BP	4,700	PowerGen	1,300
BSkyB	2,000	Prudential	9,200
BTR	16,200	REXAM	556
BT	6,100	RMC	1,200
Bk of Scot	4,900	RTZ	1,700
Barclays	2,200	Rank Org	1,200
Bass	5,500	Reckitt Col	327
Blue Circle	1,900	Redland	2,400
Boots	2,700	Reed Intl	896
BAe	1,400	Rentokil	3,200
BA	4,200	Reuters	2,000
Brit Gas	16,500	Rolls Royce	6,200
Brit Steel	8,700	Royal Ins	2,900
Burmah Cstl	410	Ryl Bk Scot	1,500
Burton	3,800	Sainsbury	4,500
Cable Wire	4,000	Schroders	28
Cadbury	1,700	Scot & New	3,000
Carlton Cms	702	Scot Power	1,300
Cm Union	1,300	Svrn Trent	1,100
Cookson	1,100	Shell Trans	2,800
Courtaulds	950	Siebe	1,400
Dixons	1,700	SmKl Bch	4,900
Enterpr Oil	3,200	Smith Nph	1,300
For & Col IT	607	Smiths Inds	618
GKN	995	Sthern Elec	744
GRE	4,800	Std Chard	3,200
GUS	2,900	Sun Allnce	7,300
Gen Acc	635	TI Gp	2,800
Gen Elec	2,200	Tate & Lyle	1,700
Glaxo Well	8,600	Tesco	8,700
Granada	4,400	Thames W	944
Grand Met	5,300	Thrn EMI	1,800
Greenalls	1,100	Tomkins	11,000
Guinness	1,800	Unilever	1,300
HSBC	2,100	United Utils	2,600
Hanson	6,400	Vodafone	2,600
ICI	2,500	Whitbread	641
Kingfisher	5,300	Wlms Hld	2,100
LASMO	4,900	Wolseley	781
Ladbroke	5,100	Zeneca	2,600

WALL STREET

	May 22 midday	May 21 close
AMP Inc	43	42¾
AMR Corp	96½	97
ASA	44¼	45
AT & T	62½	62¼
Abbott Labs	41¼	41¼
Advanced Micro	17¼	17¼
Aetna Life	74	74¼
Ahmanson (HF)	25¼	25¼
Air Prod & Chem	57½	57¼
AirTouch Comm	32¼	32¾
Alberto-Culver B	39¼	39¼
Albertson's	40	39¾
Alcan Aluminm	32½	32¼
Alco Standard	63¾	62¾
Allied Signal	58¼	57¾
Alum Co of Am	63¾	63¾
Amax Gold Inc	6½	6½
Amerada Hess	58¾	58½
Amer Brands	43¼	43¾
Amer El Power	40¼	40¾
Amer Express	47¼	47¼
Amer Genl Corp	36¼	35¾
Amer Home Pr	53¼	53½
Amer Intl	92¼	93¾
Amer Stores	35¾	35¼
Amer Standard	30¾	30¼
Ameritech	58¾	58¾
Amoco	74¾	72¼
Anheuser-Busch	71½	71¼
Apple Computer	26¼	27¼
Archer Daniels	19¼	19¼
Armco	5½	5¼
Armstrng Wrld	58¾	58¾
Asarco	33½	33¼
Ashland Oil	43	43¼
Atl Richfield	120½	119¾
Auto Data Pro	38¼	38¼
Avery Dennison	57¼	57¾
Avon Products	94¼	93¾
Baker Hughes	33¼	33½
Baltim Gas & El	27¼	27¼
Banc One	36¼	35¾
BankAmerica	75¼	75¼
Bank of NY	52¾	52¼
Bankers Tr NY	73¼	73¼
Barnett Banks	63	62¾
Bausch & Lomb	42	41¾
Baxter Intl	44¼	44¼
Becton Dickson	84	83¾
Bell Atlantic	63½	63¾
Bell Industries	20¼	21¼
BellSouth	41¼	41¼
Black & Decker	40¼	41
Block (H&R)	34¾	34¼
Boeing	84¼	83¾
Boise Cascade	44¼	45¼
Bristol Myrs Sq	83½	82¾
Browning Ferris	30	29¾
Brunswick	21¼	21
Burlington Nthn	87¾	87
CMS Energy Corp	29¾	29¾
CNA Financial	100¼	100
CPC Intl	68¾	69¼
CSX	51¼	50¾
Campbell Soup	64¼	64¾
Can Pacific	20¼	20¾
Carolina Pwr	36¼	36¾
Caterpillar	68¾	68¾
Central & SW	27¼	27¾
Champion Intl	46¾	47
Chase Manhat	70¾	70¾
Chevron Corp	60¾	60¼
Chrysler	67¾	68
Chubb Corp	47¾	47¾
Cigna Corp	113¾	114
Citicorp	83¾	83¾
Clorox	85¾	85¾
Coastal Corp	40¾	40¼
Coca Cola	46¼	46¼
Colgate-Palmolive	79¾	79¼
Columbia Gas	48¾	48¾
ColumbiaHCA	52¼	52¾
Compaq Comp	48	48¾
Comp Ass Int	77	81
Conagra	42¾	42¼
Conrail	71¾	70¾
Cons Edison	27¾	27¾
Cons Nat Gas	49¾	49¼
Cooper Inds	41¼	42¾
Corestates	40¾	41¼
Corning Inc	38¼	38¾
Crown Cork	47¾	47¾
Dana Corp	33½	33¼
Dayton Hudson	102¾	106
Deere	42¾	42¾
Delta Air Lines	85¼	84¼
Deluxe Corp	36¾	37
Digital Equip	54¼	54¾
Dillard Dept St	38¼	38¼
Disney (Walt)	62¼	62¾
Dominion Res	39¾	39¾
Donnelley (RR)	36¼	36
Dover Corp	49¾	49¾
Dow Chemical	86¾	87¾
Dow Jones	38¾	38
Dresser	30¾	30¾
Duke Power	48¾	48¼
Dun & Bradstreet	63¾	61¾
Du Pont	83¾	83¾
Eastman Chem	66¼	66¼
Eastman Kodak	75¾	76¼
Eaton Corp	58¼	58¾
Edison Int	16¼	16¾
Emerson Elec	87¾	87¾
Engelhard Corp	25	25¾
Enron Corp	41¾	41½
Entergy	27¾	27¾
Ethyl Corp	10¾	10¾
Exxon	87¼	86
FMC Corp	67¾	67¾
FPL Group	43¾	43¾
Federal Express	81¾	81¾
Fed Nat Mtge	32¼	32¾
First Bk Sys	61¾	61¾
First Union Rlty	7¼	7¾
Fleet Fin Grp	45¾	44¾
Fluor Corp	65¾	66¾
Ford Motor	36¼	36¾
GTE Corp	44¼	44¾
Gannett	67¾	67¼
Gap Inc Del	32¾	33¾
Gen Dynamics	64¾	63¾
Gen Electric	83¾	83¾
Gen Mills	57¾	56¾
Gen Motors	56¾	56¾
Gen Reinsurance	141¼	141¼
Gen Signal	38¼	39
Genuine Parts	45¾	45¾
Georgia Pac	75¾	77¾
Gillette	58¾	57¾
Glaxo Wellc ADR	26	26¾
Goodrich (BF)	39¾	38¾
Goodyear Tire	52¾	52¾
Grace (W&R)	74¾	75¾
Grt Atl Pac Tea	35¾	36
Great Wstn Fin	23¾	23¾
Halliburton	57¾	56
Harcourt General	52¾	51¾
Heinz (HJ)	33	32¾
Hercules	59¾	59¾
Hershey Foods	75¾	75¾
Hewlett Packard	108¾	108¾
Hilton Hotels	103¾	103¾
Home Depot	52¾	52¾
Homestake Mng	20	20
Honeywell	51¼	51¼
Household Intl	69¾	69¾
Houston Inds	23¾	23
Humana	23¾	23¾
ITT Corp	61¼	61¾
Illinois Tool	67¾	67¾
Illinova	26¾	27
INCO	33	32¾
Ingersoll Rand	43¾	43¾
Inland Steel	22¾	22¾
Intel Corp	69¾	70¾
IBM	110¼	110¾
Intl Flav & Fr	49¾	49¾
Intl Paper	42¼	42¾
James River Va	26¾	26¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	95¾	95¾
Kellogg	72¼	72¾
Kerr-McGee	62¾	62
Kimberly-Clark	74¾	73¾
Kmart	10¾	10¾
Knight-Ridder	75¾	75¾
Lilly (Eli)	58¾	59
Limited Inc	21¼	21¾
Lincoln Nat	48¾	47¾
Litton	46¾	46¼
Liz Claiborne	37¾	37¼
Lockheed Martin	83¾	82¾
Louisiana Pac	25¾	25¾
MCI Comm	29¾	29¾
Marriott Int	47¾	47¾
Marsh & McLnn	95	95¾
Masco Corp	31¼	31¾
May Dept St	49¾	49¾
Maytag Corp	22	22¾
McDonalds	49¾	48¾
McDonnell D	101¼	102
McGraw Hill	48	47¾
Mead Corp	54¾	54¾
Medtronic	56¾	56¾
Mellon Bk	55¾	55¾
Melville Corp	39	39¾
Merck Inc	63¾	63¾
Merrill Lynch	65¾	64¾
Microsoft	119¾	115¾
Minnesota Mine	69	70
Mobil Corp	119¾	114¾
Monsanto	156¾	156¾
Morgan (JP)	87¾	88¾
Motorola Inc	65¾	65¾
Natl Semi	16¾	16¾
Natl Service Ind	38¾	38¾
Navistar Int	10¾	10¾
NY Times A	32¾	33
Newmont Mng	59¾	60
Niag Mohawk	7¾	7¾
Nike B	102	100¾
NL Industries	14¾	14¾
Norand Energy	10¾	10¾
Nordstrom	52¾	51¾
Norfolk Sthrn	87¾	87¾
Nthn State Pwr	47¾	47¾
Norwest Corp	36	36
Nynex Corp	46¾	47¾
Occidental Pet	26¾	26¾
Ohio Edison	21¾	21¾
Oracle	34¼	35¾
Oryx Energy Co	17¼	16¾
Overseas Ship	18¾	19
Owens Corning	40¾	40¾
PHH Corp	56¾	56
PPG Industries	52¾	53
PNC Bank	30¾	30¼
PP&L Res	23	22¾
Paccar Inc	48¾	49
Pacificorp	20	20¾
Pac Enterprises	26¾	26¾
Pac Gas & Elect	22¾	22¾
Pac Telesis	33¾	33¾
Pall Corp	27¾	27¾
Parker Hannifin	41¾	41¾
Peco Energy	25¾	25¾
Penney (JC)	52¾	51¾
Pennzoil	44¾	44¾
Pepsico	67¾	68¾
Pfizer	66¾	66¾
Pharm & Upjhn	41¾	41¾
Phelps Dodge	70¾	71
Philip Morris	96¾	96¾
Phillips Pet	41¾	41¾
Pitney Bowes	50¾	50¾
Polaroid	44¾	44¾
PriceCostco	20¾	20¾
Procter & Gmbl	88¾	88¾
Providian	44¾	45¾
Pub Serv E & G	26¾	26¾
Quaker Oats	34	34¾
Ralston Purina	60	59¾
Raychem Corp	80¾	79¾
Raytheon	51¾	51¾
Reebok Intl	30¾	30¾
Reynolds Metals	53¾	54¾
Rockwell Intl	56¾	56
Rohm & Haas	68¾	69
Royal Dutch	151	149¾
Rubbermaid	28¾	28¾
SBC Comms	49¾	49¾
Safeco Corp	33¾	33¾
St Paul's Cos	52¾	51¾
Salomon Inc	43¾	43¾
Sara Lee Corp	33¾	32¾
Schering Plough	57¾	57¾
Schlumberger	88¾	87¾
Seagram	35	35¾
Sears Roebuck	50	49¾
Shell Trans	89¾	89¾
Sherwin Wlms	45¾	46
Skyline Corp	25¾	25¾
Snap-On-Tools	48¾	48¾
Southern Co	23¾	23¾
Sprint Corp	42¾	43¾
Stanley Works	60¾	61¾
Sun Company	31¾	31¾
Sun Microsys	59¾	60
Suntrust	37¾	74¾
Supervalu	31¾	31¾
Sysco Corp	32¾	32¾
TRW Inc	94¾	94¾
TCC Inds	2¾	2¾
Tandem Comp	12¾	12¾
Tandy Corp	57¾	58¾
Teledyne	39¾	39¾
Temple Inland	50¾	50¾
Tenneco	55¾	56¾
Texaco	85¾	85
Texas Inst	52¾	53¾
Texas Utilities	41¾	41¾
Textron	84¾	85¾
Time Warner	41¾	40¾
Times-Mirror A	44¾	44¾
Timken	39¾	39¾
Torchmark	42¾	43¾
Toys R Us	29¾	30
Transamerica	81	81¾
Travelers	61¾	62¾
Tribune	72¾	72¾
Tyco Labs	40¾	40¾
UST Inc	32¾	32¾
UAL	59¾	59
US Inds	22	22
USX Marathon	22¾	22¾
Unicom	27¾	27¾
Unilever NV	137¾	136¾
Union Camp	54¾	56¾
Union Carbide	43¾	44¾
Union Pacific	70¾	71
Unisys Corp	8¾	8¾
USAIR Group	18	18
USF&G Corp	15¾	15¾
US Life	30¾	30¾
United Tech	109¾	109¾
Unocal Corp	32¾	32¾
VF Corp	60¾	60¾
WMX Tech	35	34¾
Wal-Mart Stores	25	24¾
Warner-Lambert	54¾	55
Wells Fargo	244¾	243
Westinghouse El	17¾	17¾
Weyerhaeuser	48¾	49
Whirlpool	56¾	56¾
Whitman	25¾	25
Winn Dixie	34¾	34¾
Woolworth	21¾	21
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	53	53¾
Xerox	159	159¾
Yellow Corp	12¾	12¾

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Labour relations

ON THE day his wife, who is carrying their second child, was being induced, heartless UBS chemicals analyst Alasdair Nisbet was saying goodbye to Courtaulds's departing chief executive. Courtaulds's fiercest critic grabbed the microphone at the end of the company's presentation to applaud publicly Sipko Huismans's role in championing the development of Tencel, the wonder fibre. Mr Huismans later said: "It's always better to receive praise from opponents than from lackeys."

After 35 years at Courtaulds, Mr Huismans, a motor racing fan and keen sailor, says he is off to make some serious money, working on a major project for a company in the Far East. Meanwhile, the latest addition to the Nisbet household had yet to arrive as we went to press.

Capital idea

SLUSHY Gordon Bonnyman, managing director of Charterhouse Development Capital, is on the receiving end of much flak from his colleagues after naming a rose "Dixieland Linda" for his Virginia-born wife's fiftieth birthday. Bonnyman, 51, refuses to say how much he spent on the apricot climber, but admits: "A lot of my pals have cut me off — the ones who buy hair dryers and boxes of chocolates." Bonnyman's wife has returned the compliment, arriving home with a savage black labrador puppy for his birthday next month.

City friend

A TOUCHING moment at Oasis Stores' annual general meeting yesterday was wrecked when the true identity of a mystery speaker was revealed. The man who stood up to announce that the company had "made a lot of friends in the City" and to express his "sincerest thanks to the directors for the marvellous performance of the company" was Bob Cathury, a director of Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, Oasis's broker.

"We are talking portable telephone numbers"

Away day

A MARQUEE in a field in the heart of Dorset is not the obvious place to encounter a Whitehall mandarin. But Sir Terence Burns, Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, was in Poundbury this week, visiting the Prince of Wales's housing scheme. Sir Terence joined the prince on a tour of the site before dining with fellow guests, including Lord Cairns, chairman of BAT Industries. While the prince left in a helicopter, Sir Terence took the train home.

Cleaned out

THE executive who has held at bay some of Britain's mightiest bankers, to keep afloat one of the country's biggest leisure combines, was yesterday cut to size by his office cleaner. John Leach, chief executive of Brent Walker, was unable to reach his telephone to explain the company's latest losses of £414.5 million until his office had been dusted and his bins emptied. A chastened Leach said: "I never argue with the cleaners."

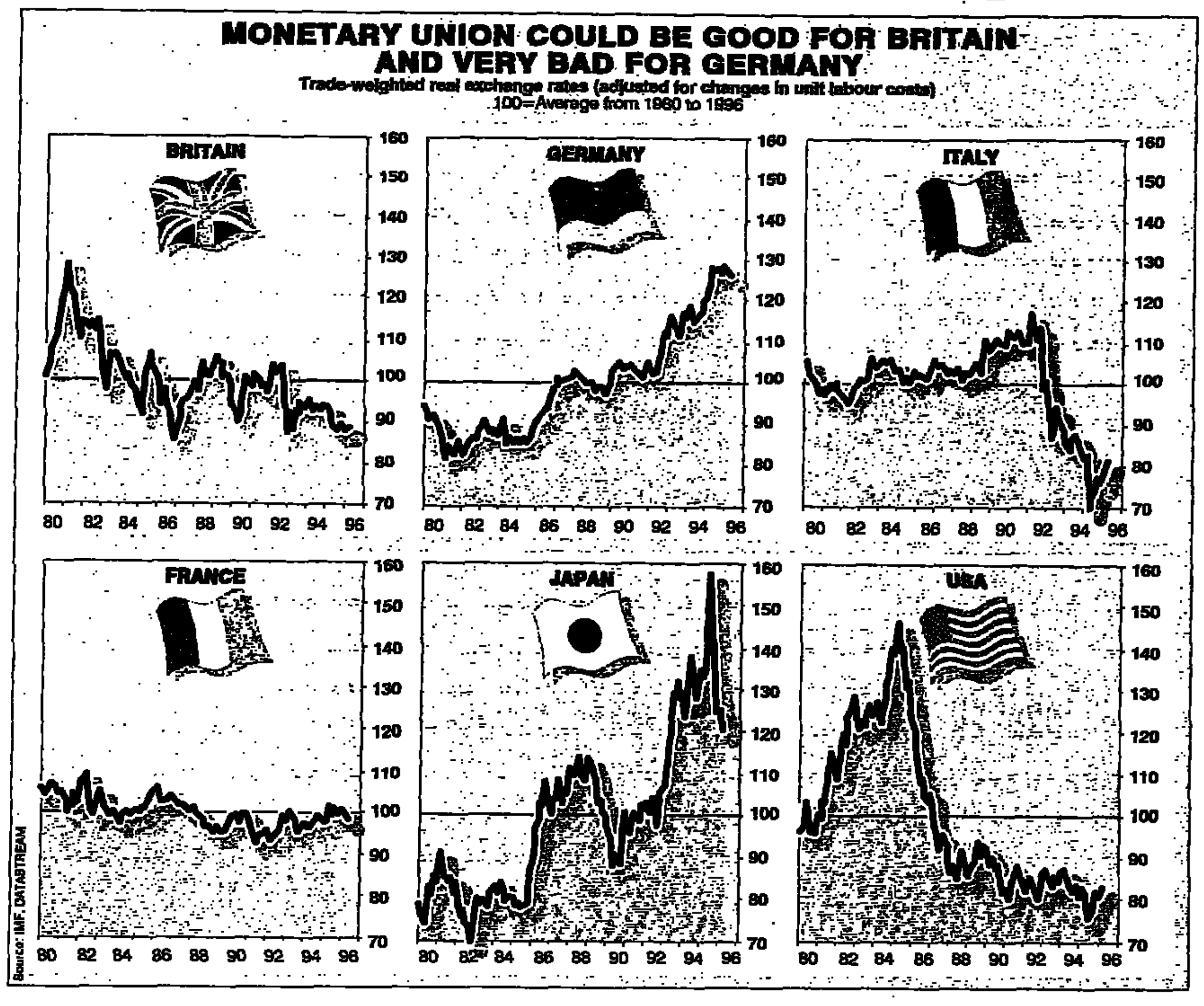
MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Economic consequences of the 'war' against Europe

The danger is that in debate 'reasonable' may end up regarded as 'treasonable'



MONETARY UNION COULD BE GOOD FOR BRITAIN AND VERY BAD FOR GERMANY

Trade-weighted real exchange rates (adjusted for changes in unit labour costs) 100=Average from 1980 to 1996

Source: IMF, DATASTREAM

Do you remember that Friday in October, 1990 when John Major put Britain into the ERM? I do very clearly because, as it happened, that was the week I joined *The Times*. I had made only one stipulation before taking the job of Economics Editor: that *The Times* should forthrightly oppose British membership of the ERM. Just as Mr Major's announcement flashed on the news screens, I had sat down at my desk to start writing a long leader, to be published in the following Monday's paper, declaring our opposition to membership of the ERM.

Our opposition to the ERM from the very first day put *The Times* at odds with Britain's entire political and economic establishment — and earned us more than a few private rebukes for unpatriotism from such ERM zealots as Norman Lamont. From that memorable Friday until a certain even more memorable Wednesday two years later, it was virtually impossible to hear a respectable voice raised against the madness of crippling the British economy and making three million people jobless in order to keep the pound at DM2.95.

I indulge in this reminiscence because I found myself in an oddly analagous position on Tuesday, when Mr Major declared war on Europe over bulls' semen. Just as the Prime Minister rose in the Commons to announce his latest "big idea", I had sat down at my desk to begin the original version of this article — which was going to look constructively at the reasons why Britain might, after all, want to join a European monetary union.

For someone who has spent this entire decade opposing Britain's monetary subservience to Europe, this was always going to be a difficult argument to make — and in fact, after writing this article I shall be going on a four-week sabbatical, in part to think about these issues more closely. Nevertheless, I was struck with increasing force in the past few months that the pendulum of public opinion was swinging too far against Europe. Just as it was hard back in 1990 to hear a coherently argued case against Britain joining the ERM, it was becoming difficult for anyone involved in British politics to say anything sensible about the possible advantages of monetary union.

Now, the conspiracy of silence is certain to deepen, as it did after Britain joined the ERM. In October 1990, Mr Major's announcement that Britain's national pride was valued at DM2.95, crushed what little opposition there had been to the ERM. Today, his decision to equate patriotism with tallow and gelatine will suppress what little reasonable discussion there might have been about Britain's relationship with Europe. When a nation puts itself in a state of war it is all too easy for reasonable to be misprinted as treasonable.

At times like this, questions of historic importance which, by their very nature are often finely balanced, are not settled by the absence of rational debate. Mr Major's plan seems to be to turn xenophobia into a powerful political weapon and call a "khaki" election modelled on Lady Thatcher's campaign after the Falklands War.

If Mr Major's strategy succeeds, the Tories will go to the country making promises they could only deliver by taking Britain completely out of the EU — for example, repatriating control over fisheries and agriculture, or taking Britain out of the jurisdiction of the European Court. Labour will then have a choice.

Either it will fight the election on a clearly pro-European platform designed to make Tory voters face up to the logical consequence of their party's position: the complete withdrawal from the EU now advocated by Norman Lamont and a growing number of honest Eurosceptics. Alternatively, and more probably, Labour will be too intimidated by charges of "treason" to make a positive case for Europe.

Tony Blair could then be forced to go even further than Mr Major to prove his "patriotism" by ruling out even the possibility of joining a single currency in 1999. Even if such an election did not put in doubt Britain's membership of the EU itself, it would virtually destroy the possibiliity of a rational debate about EMU. At best, if the two main parties decided to fight the election over Europe, the single currency would be turned into a narrowly partisan issue of electoral politics. At worst, if Labour tried to outdo the Tory "patriotism" against Europe, the single currency would become the great unmentionable of the next parliament.

To those who are Eurosceptics as a matter of settled patriotic conviction, that might be the best possible news. But for people like me, whose opposition to the ERM and EMU has been driven by pragmatic economics, not political ideology, a patriotic taboo against EMU would be a cause for alarm. In my view, the arguments for and against EMU are much more finely balanced than the ideological Eurosceptics or the Euro-enthusiasts in Brussels, Bonn and Paris are willing to admit.

There are, to be sure, some absolute matters of principle involved in EMU — above all, the questions of sovereign national control over fiscal policy and the anti-democratic statutes of a European Central Bank. These two issues can, and in my view should, be seen as insuperable obstacles to British involvement in a single currency on the terms laid out in the Maastricht treaty. But what if those terms are changed? What has made me start thinking again about pros and cons of EMU is the growing possibility that the practical application of the Maastricht treaty could be substantially, or subtly, revised. By 1998, the politics of EMU could be very different — and far more favourable to Britain — than they look today.

Not only will the Maastricht convergence targets have to be substantially relaxed to make EMU possible. Even more importantly, it now looks quite likely that, if and when EMU happens, the balance of economic power in Europe will be very different from the one envisaged in 1990 when the treaty was signed. The German economy looks like being much weaker relative to the rest of Europe than anyone would have imagined at Maastricht.

Meanwhile, Italy and France, along with Britain, could be doing much better than Germany because monetary union could give them the chance to lock in their competitive advantage against Germany for many years. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity that Britain would be unwise to ignore completely, given our long history of losing competitiveness against Europe in general and Germany in particular.

The central point is illustrated in the charts, which show real exchange rates, adjusted for changes in relative labour costs in the big six industrialised countries. In each case, the exchange rates are shown relative to their long run averages over the past 16 years — the higher the line, the less competitive is the economy and the greater the long-term problems faced by the country's manufacturers and international traders. As the charts show, Germany today has an extremely overvalued exchange rate (worse even than Japan's), while the pound (along with the lira and dollar) is about as competitive as it has been since 1980.

These figures imply that Germany would enter a monetary union in 1999 in a relatively very weak position — unless its industry enjoyed a miraculous gain in competitiveness over the next two years. And given the impossibility of devaluing the mark against other European currencies from 1999 onwards, there would be only one way for German industry to regain some of the competitiveness it had lost since 1992 — the rest of Europe would have to have higher inflation than Germany for many years. That, however, would be impossible if Germany insisted on a highly deflationary policy throughout Europe imposed by the ECB.

The upshot is that Germany, by 1998, may now have an overwhelming national interest in creating a monetary union that would be less deflationary than the monetary and fiscal regime that the Maastricht treaty imposed. Germany could also agree to changes in the institutional structure that would make the new central bank properly accountable and responsive to pressures for job creation and economic growth.

In my view, it would be foolish for Britain to rule out the possibility of locking in a permanent competitive advantage over Germany or joining such a growth-oriented monetary union. After my sabbatical, I shall return to these issues — even if Britain is still at war over bulls' semen.

OFT unsheaths its claws over contract terms

Sara McConnell on the latest attempts to ensure consumers get a fairer deal

How many people read the small print on the back of a pay and display parking ticket or film receipt when they get photographs developed? The fingers of one hand could well exceed the number who do, and suppliers of goods and services know it. For years, they have been able to counter consumer complaints by pointing to obscure clauses in terms and conditions printed in minuscule type, absolving themselves from responsibility when things go wrong.

But the Office of Fair Trading has not been idle. New regulations implementing the 1993 European Community Directive on Unfair Contract Terms have given John Bridgeman, the OFT director-general, new powers to prevent suppliers from using unfair contract terms.

Yesterday, the OFT produced its first bulletin on its progress, complete with case studies of 25 public and private sector bodies forced to change their contract terms. They include such household names as Savacentre, Stena Line and City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council. An estimated 700 complaints about unfair contract terms, mostly from individual consumers or trading standards officers, have been received since the regulations came into force in this country in July 1995.

The OFT has the power to take legal action as a last resort but, perhaps surprisingly, all 25 companies in the bulletin proved amenable to negotiation and agreed to drop or amend the offending terms. The regulations give the OFT powers to apply to the courts for an injunction to stop suppliers using contract terms it considers unfair. It says: "This will be a last resort, but where it does prove necessary to warn suppliers that proceedings will be started, that warning will invariably be followed through."

Unfortunately, unfairness is not an easy thing to test. The OFT has to take into account such nebulous concepts as "good faith", the relative strength of the bargaining position of consumer and supplier, and whether a contract clause has the potential to be unfair even if no one has actually been caught out by it. In practice, of course, complaints will normally come from people who have been caught out.

What, then, constitutes an unfair contract clause? There are several common types. Entire agreement clauses exclude from the contract anything a consumer was promised by a salesman or agent, as in this clause from a double glazing contract: "The placing of an order with the company will be deemed to bind the customer to the following terms and conditions and no oral representations shall bind the company."

Customers often do not see the full terms and conditions until they have signed on the dotted line, so later discover hidden clauses.

Exclusion clauses exclude the company from any liability and are, the OFT says, "very common". Some companies use penalty clauses in which one-sided terms penalise customers without imposing similar penalties on the supplier. Variation clauses give suppliers the right to put up prices without allowing customers the right to withdraw without penalty.

However, the regulations are not perfect. Some types of contract are outside the OFT's terms of reference. The OFT cannot investigate contracts until it receives complaints. The reluctance of consumers to read small print in the first place has itself led to many of the unfair clauses escaping unnoticed, which could be a stumbling block in future.

There is still some way to go, particularly with small print

The OFT also has no powers to lean on companies to provide redress for consumers who have suffered through unfair contract terms, leaving them to rely on the courts.

The bulletin makes clear there is "still some way to go", particularly in areas like small print. But it warns companies that unreadable small print is "pointless and counterproductive. Illegal print and obscure wording can by themselves make terms unenforceable because the regulations require the consumer to be given an opportunity to examine all the terms before he is bound by them". It concludes with an appeal to commercial sense: "Consumer business can only gain by presenting a better public face and writing contracts more clearly and fairly." This argument may yet sway where all else has failed.

BUSINESS LETTERS

English ICA disenfranchising its overseas members

From Mr Jeff Wooller

Sir, I must take issue with your contributor, Robert Bruce, on his feature of May 16, "Reformers face proxy problems".

He says that my motion at the AGM of the English ICA on June 4 "that the institute members should elect future presidents" has been aimed at the wrong meeting. He states that I should have gone for the special meeting of the same day.

I do not agree, although it is true that because of institute action proxies are available only if members take the trouble to get them from the institute, in which event they are sent proxies for both meetings.

Why could the institute not have sent the latter proxies out to prevent this inconvenience to members? In fact they have virtually disenfranchised its overseas members.

Could it be that the institute knew that I would win on a fair vote? Any talk of democracy by the English council is pure lip service.

The ginger group's policy is to attack the institute where it hurts, ie, in its pocket, by calling for members to vote against the proposed increase in membership fees.

Yours faithfully,
JEFF WOOLLER,
English ICA ginger group,
Central Club,
16-22 Great Russell Street,
WC1.

Shareholders can assess the value of the scrip dividend alternative

From Mr Reginald Le Grove

Sir, Democracy does not require a vote on every issue and David Lindsay (Business Letters, May 17) is quite free to please himself whether or not to avail himself of the handy option of stock dividends in a company already authorised by its shareholders to offer them. There is, therefore, no need for shareholders to vote against these schemes. I have recently cancelled a stock dividend mandate, having decided, at 76 years of age, that I no longer need to save so much for my declining years.

A word of warning. Many who opt for stock dividends think that, by their thrift, they will make themselves less likely to be a burden on the state when they need care. They will find the calculation of indexing for RPI on these relatively small additions to a holding a burdensome task if they sell, say, to purchase an annuity. Capital Gains Tax is iniquitous and raises little revenue in relation to the complexity of the calculations involved in determining it. As a first stage towards its ultimate abolition, surely pensioners could be let off the hook?

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD LE GROVE,
9 Manor Gardens,
Saxmundham, Suffolk.

Train tenders

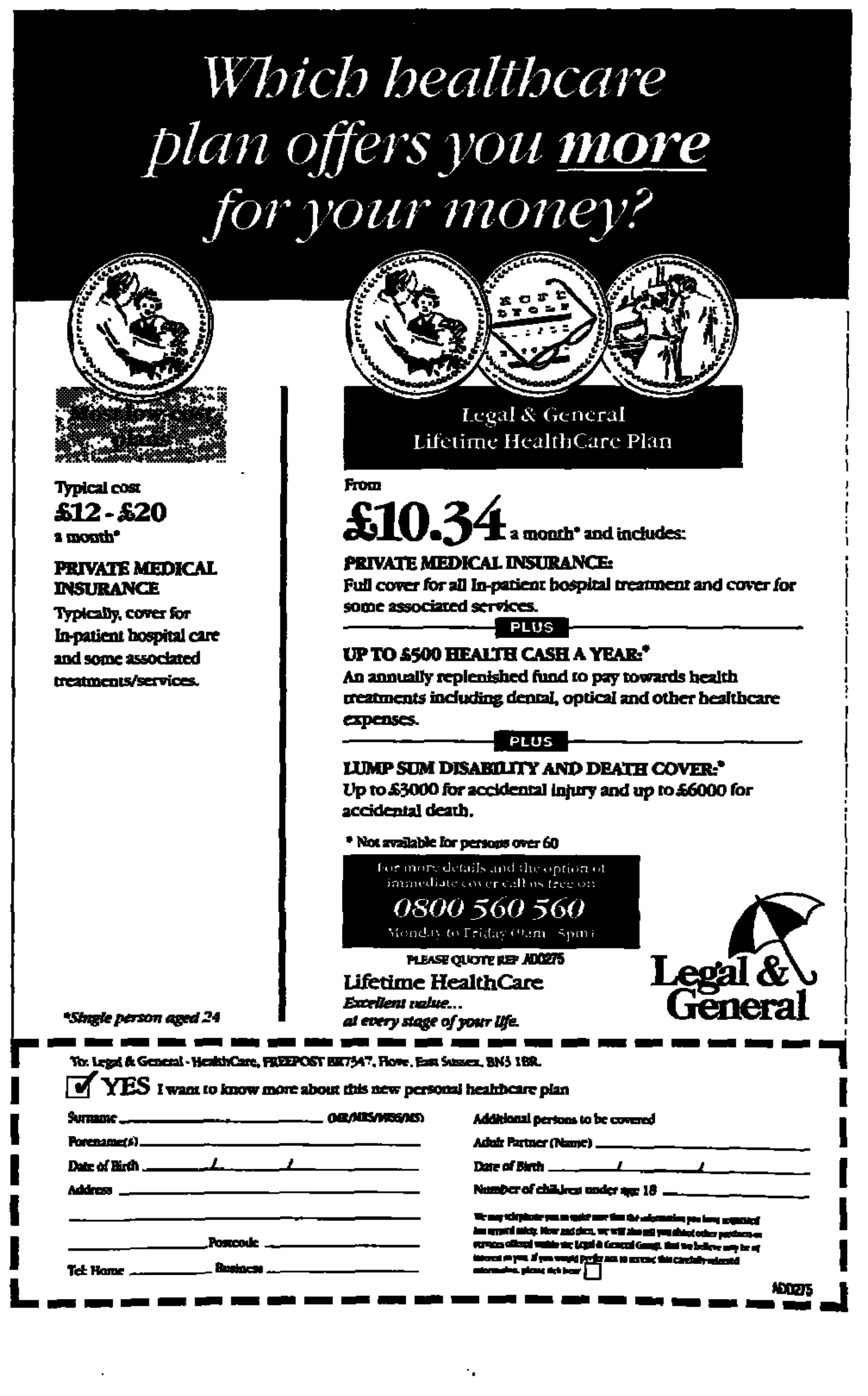
From Mr G. N. R. Tucker

Sir, The recent report that Wisconsin Central Transportation — the buyer of BR's freight division — will this week place an order worth £250 million with an American company for new freight locomotives without allowing the British locomotive industry to quote is devastating.

In the case in point this may lead if not to the death, certainly to the diminishment of one of our few remaining heavy industries but more alarming is the wider consequences which could arise if other foreign buyers of our utilities follow this trend.

Would it not have been prudent for the Government to have included a clause in the contracts with foreign buyers of UK utilities that supplies to those utilities (representing many millions of pounds) must be tendered for in this country as well as elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
G. N. R. TUCKER,
7 Rusthall Road,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.



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AD0275

Businesses take tough line on green laws

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BUSINESS would like to see the Government police environmental law more rigorously, a new study showed yesterday.

The survey shows that many UK companies are already going beyond the requirements of the law on environmental issues, confirming that green policies are moving up the business agenda. In the *1996 UK Business and the Environment Trends* survey, 70 per cent of a sample of the Top 1,000 UK companies surveyed by Entec, the environmental consultancy, and the Green Alliance pressure group said that they now attach more importance to environmental issues than they did a year ago.

While companies said that they are primarily concerned about the health and safety of their own employees, other principal concerns include water and air pollution, waste disposal and contaminated land.

The study suggests that external pressures and growing corporate concern about the environment are prompting some companies to take measures that go beyond compliance with existing legislation.

Of those surveyed, 58 per cent said they take actions beyond the requirements of the law, though a "significant minority of 16 per cent" consider it unnecessary to do more than comply with current legislation.

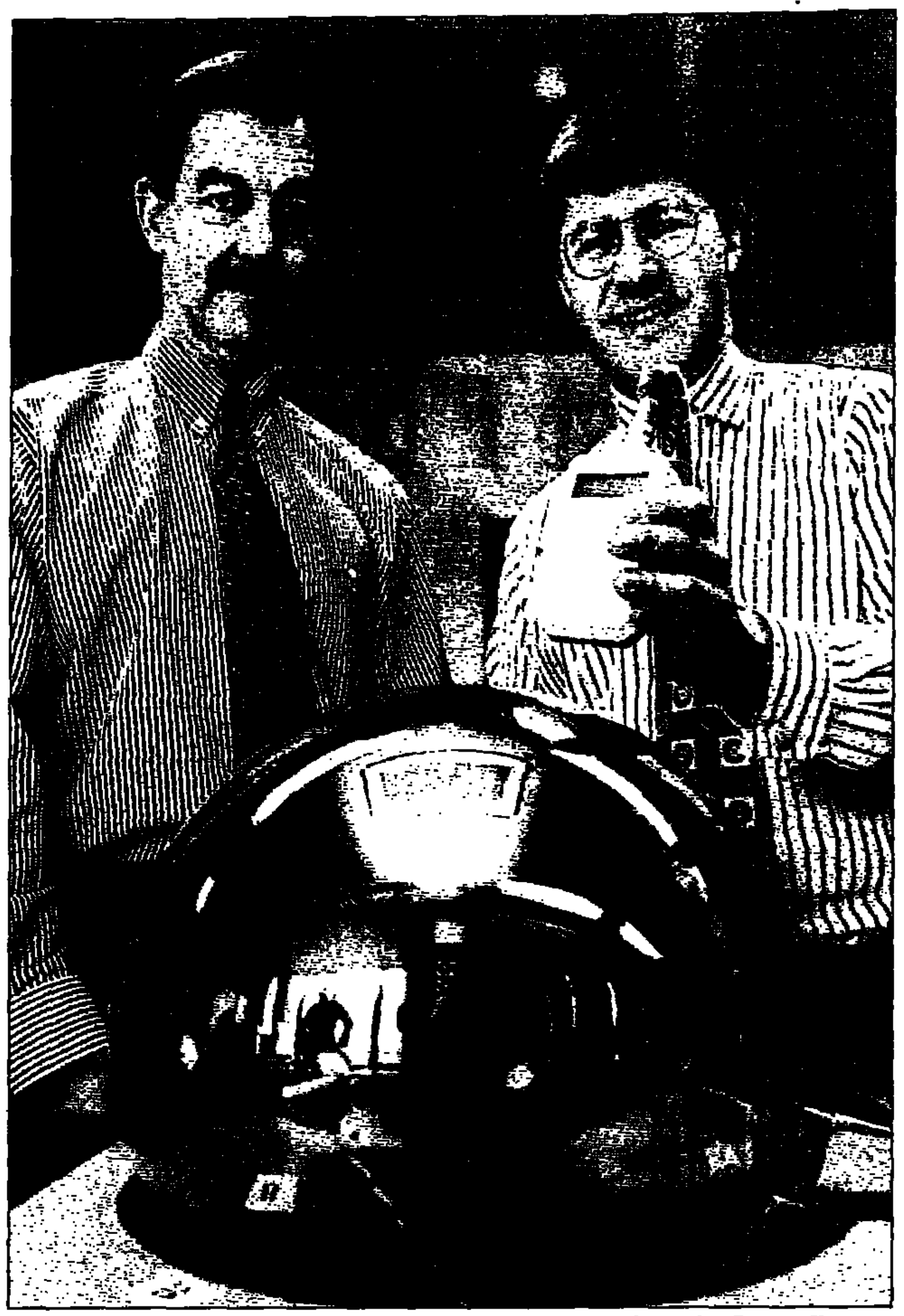
Three-quarters of companies are broadly satisfied that current environmental legislation is not too onerous, and a majority of 56 per cent believe that the current framework of laws and regulations on environmental issues should be policed more rigorously.

While the study concludes that the environment is having an ever greater impact on UK business, it suggests that the business case for investing in the environment is not yet proven, with the cost of implementing improvement programmes and the lack of awareness of any benefits to business of them cited by companies as significant factors preventing them from taking further action on the issue.

Companies would like new financial incentives from the Government for good environmental practice, with a lower VAT rate for energy-efficient raw materials the most favoured option.

Chris Farman, Entec managing director, said that while it was encouraging to see that the overwhelming majority of UK companies believed it was important to be seen to be green, "business still needs to be persuaded that pro-active management of environmental risks will deliver commercial and competitive advantage."

Julie Hill, Green Alliance director, said that the results of the survey were a "valuable measure of the extent to which the environment is being considered in business decision-making."



Expansion hopes: Richard Williams, left, and Glen Powers, Quadramatic's finance director

EMU forces rationalisation

By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent

CORPORATE Europe is on the brink of huge restructuring, forced on it by lower rates of real and nominal growth as governments strive to achieve the Maastricht criteria for monetary union.

According to a report by JP Morgan, the US investment bank, low inflation means that firms can no longer meet the rates of growth demanded by shareholders by investing. Other drivers of corporate restructuring are deregulation in Europe, consolidation of global sector factors and the pressure on companies to become more focused.

Gary Dugan, European strategist at JP Morgan, said corporations are responding by restructuring businesses, cutting costs, and turning to share buybacks as a way of enhancing shareholder value.

He said that, historically, investors demanded rates of growth in excess of 10 per cent, and "until people properly realise the inflationary environment we are in, companies will be taking action to enhance earnings". Given the low rates of return on investment, companies are using cash to reduce debt or letting it sit on deposit.

In this environment, Mr Dugan said share buybacks are an effective way of pushing the share price higher "and, if the tax regime is right, returning cash to shareholders".

German, Swedish and Swiss authorities are understood to be considering changes to the regulation and taxation of share buybacks to make them more attractive.

Quadramatic sees growth

QUADRAMATIC, the instrumentation and moulded products company, said the current order book is 19 per cent higher than last year.

In the six months to March 31 the company lifted profits to £6.22 million before tax from £4.87 million. Earnings rose to 9p a share from 7.6p. The interim dividend is lifted to 3.8p a share from 3.2p, payable July 4.

Richard Williams, chief executive, said the company continued to seek opportunities for further growth through product development and expansion overseas.

Hong Kong business leaders appeal to Major

From Tom Walker in Hong Kong

HONG KONG'S business leaders continued their campaign against Chris Patten, the Governor, yesterday, following up a letter of complaint to John Major with suggestions that it is time the Governor bowed to the inevitable and allowed chamber of commerce representatives to co-operate with China rather than bolster his democratic reforms.

An uneasy standoff between Government House and local tycoons gave way when it emerged that the colony's seven most influential chambers of commerce had written to the Prime Minister, venting their "profound disappointment" at Mr Patten's comments during his recent trip to America. He lobbied for the renewal of China's most-favoured-nation status, which is certainly in the interests of Hong Kong business.

The letter to Mr Major singled out a *Newsweek* article, headlined "Betraying Hong Kong", as having given the international community "the impression that business-people in Hong Kong do not have the territory's best interests at heart."

In the article, Mr Patten complained that business leaders were doing little or nothing to underpin his democratic reforms.

In the 20-line letter to the Prime Minister, "democracy" is not mentioned once. Instead, business leaders were said to have faith in the "one country, two systems" principle of Chinese rule in Hong Kong after 1997.

There has been little love lost between the two sides since Mr Patten returned from Canada last week.

In Bangkok, Donald Tsang, the Hong Kong Government Financial Secretary, steered clear of the crisis altogether and forecast an economic boom on China's takeover. He predicted 7 per cent growth in the colony for the last half of 1997 and early 1998, revising earlier figures of about 5 per cent.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

IBM and Téléfonica sign on-line pact

IN A DEAL that will put Spain firmly on the global "info-map", IBM and Téléfonica, the Spanish state-run telecommunications company, have concluded a collaboration agreement for the Spanish on-line services market. The agreement was signed yesterday by Juan Carlos Usandizaga, the president of IBM Spain, and Candido Velázquez, president of Téléfonica. As a result, all IBM personal computers sold in Spain will include software that allows on-line access to Infovía, Téléfonica's information network.

In addition, IBM's Global Network (IGN) — with nodes in 850 cities, in more than 100 countries — will be connected to Infovia, allowing users of the Spanish network automatic access to the full range of IGN's services. IBM has also undertaken to promote Infovia to the clients in its portfolio, estimated to number more than 25,000 commercial enterprises worldwide. Téléfonica is committed to extending its accord with IBM to telecommunications companies in Argentina, Chile and Peru in which it has a controlling interest.

Whessoe shares slide

SHARES of Whessoe fell 36p to 134p yesterday after the instrumentation and control company cut its interim dividend to 1.1p a share, from 1.5p, in spite of returning to profit in the six months to March 31. Pre-tax profits were £14,000, compared with losses of £2.3 million in the first half of the previous year. Losses per share were reduced to 1p, from 10.4p last time. George Duncan, chairman, said that the markets in which Whessoe operates remain "very competitive".

Placing at Parkland

PARKLAND GROUP is raising £7.5 million through a placing and open offer to diversify into industrial textiles. New shares are being offered at 173p each, against yesterday's price of 190p. Parkland also announced the purchase of Autofil, a supplier of yarns for the automotive industry, for about £990,000. Yesterday Parkland reported profits of £2.54 million (£2.15 million) before tax for the 12 months to March 3. The total dividend is held at 5.5p a share, with a second interim dividend of 3.3p due July 8.

Merchant Retail in red

MERCHANT RETAIL GROUP, the department store and speciality retailer that owns Joplins and The Perfume Shop, incurred a pre-tax loss of £2.16 million in the year to March 31. This included an exceptional charge of £2.73 million, principally against the sale of Normans, the cash-and-carry business. In the previous 12 months the company earned profits of £1.08 million. Operating profits before exceptional charges rose 12 per cent to £2.63 million. Losses were 3.27p a share (earnings of 1.04p). There is again no dividend.

Protest at CRA meeting

CRA, the Australian mining group, came under attack for its industrial relations record at a fiery annual meeting yesterdaybut kept alive an A$1.1 billion (£577 million) zinc project opposed by native landowners. CRA, half of a dual-listed company structure with Britain's RTZ Corp, delayed the start of the meeting by an hour after scores of striking CRA miners blocked the entrance to the meeting during a protest. Hundreds of shareholders were abused by angry miners when they eventually entered the building.

ACCOUNTANCY

A little light brings much relief

Underclaiming for expenditure on buildings is rife. It's a world of complexity, says **Philip Feibusch**

DO THE recent court decisions in *Melluish v BMI (No3) and Others* and *Attwood v Anduff Car Wash* affect you? They will affect you in some way if you want to benefit from the significant tax relief that is available for fixed plant and machinery (eg, lifts, heating), even if you are not a taxpayer.

These cases relate to the entitlement to tax relief for certain capital expenditure and the complex issues raised are important. Commercial depreciation is not allowable for tax purposes but, instead, capital allowances are given at fixed rates. On sale or disposal of the assets an adjustment is made to reflect the actual depreciation.

Expenditure on the structure of a property is not allowable unless it qualifies for Industrial Buildings Allowances. Qualifying structures are defined in the legislation and tax relief is normally given over a 25-year tax life. For other properties, while no relief is available for the structure, tax relief is given for the cost of machinery and plant over a period of years at 25 per cent per annum on a reducing balance basis.

Up to 40 per cent of the cost of an office may qualify in this way. Overall allowances for a property, including those for the fixed plant and machinery, are often more generous than those available in many other countries. So what is the problem?

In *BMI v Melluish*, tax relief was available for heating units, among other items, installed after July 12, 1984, but not for the same type of units installed before that date. Why was this?

To cut a very long story extremely short, BMI, a tax-paying leasing company, paid for the heating units, which were installed in local authority properties, in return for rent to be paid by the authority at levels set to reflect the benefit of the allowances to be claimed by BMI. The units were fixed to the building and the House of Lords found that BMI was not entitled to the allowances as it failed to meet one of the prerequisites of establishing a claim, that is, it failed to show that the machinery and plant belonged to it.

In law, the units had become part of the building to which they were fixed, and therefore belonged to the local authority, in spite of a clause in the lease contract retaining BMI's title. Allowances were confirmed, however, for heating units installed after July 12, 1984. This is because BMI and the local authority were able to take advantage of a change in the legislation effective from that date and make an election for BMI to claim the allowances.

Philip Feibusch says the law is not written in plain English

In the *Anduff* case a specially designed car wash hall was held not to qualify for capital allowances, even though previously accepted by Special Commissioners. Although the court acknowledged that the wash hall functioned particularly well for the taxpayer's trade, it was still considered by them to be part of the premises *in* which the business was carried on, rather than plant *with* which the business is carried on. This, despite being unsuitable for virtually any other purpose.

Further, the legislation is not exactly written in plain English, or in fact referenced adequately to itself, and the list of precedent case law underlying what may qualify, dating back to 1878, complicates the situation, as does the necessary anti-tax avoidance legislation to stop allowances being claimed more than once, or at inflated values, or, as seen earlier, unexpectedly not being available due to a quirk.

How complex is the legislation? A comment made during the parliamentary debate about a note to one of two new tables being introduced in the Finance Act 1994 to "clarify" what *may not* be claimed, probably says it all. Stephen Dorrell, who was then Chief Secretary to the Treasury, told the House: "All ministers rely from time to time on the advice of parliamentary draftsmen. I confess that I have studied the text to note 2 table 2 for some time. I am not sure that it was clear to me precisely what it meant, either before the amendment that I am now moving, or after it."

Capital allowances are important but very few companies maximise their entitlement, not for the want of trying but because the system has become so confusing.

Unless the system is changed may I suggest the following questions are considered when preparing a claim (they may help a little, but definitely do not cover every eventuality). Does the item "belong" to you for tax purposes? Is it qualifying plant or machinery? Is it valued or costed correctly? Has it been claimed and notified correctly and in time? Is or has anyone else been entitled to claim allowances? Is it capital expenditure?

Philip Feibusch is head of the Arthur Andersen capital allowances practice

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A promise of fun and games

THERE were revolutionary words from David Frost, the new president of the Chartered Institute of Taxation, at the institute's annual meeting yesterday.

"Fun," Mr Frost said, "is the first initiative of my presidential year."

Given that his year will include the introduction of the self-assessment system, you can see why people wondered if the new president has a twisted sense of humour.

But no. He intends to launch a series of charitable events called "Tax Relief". Aided by Tolley Publishing and the Michael Page Group, the intention is for tax practitioners to invent their own charitable events under the "Tax Relief" umbrella. These, said Frost, could range "from cricket matches to sponsored dieting".

The setting up of a set of stocks in the courtyard of the Inland Revenue headquarters might be an equally popular move.

Gain without pain

THE temporary accountants' market is booming. So we should applaud some remarkable timing on the part of James Wheeler, managing director of Hewitson-Walker, the leading agency providing temporary accountants. He is now chief executive, having engineered what he says was a "remarkably painless" management buyout.

Poll paradox

THE taxmen could have done with some counting practice at the English ICA last week. At the tax faculty debate on the Inland Revenue's powers of discretion, a straw poll was taken before and after the debate. Before, 78 voted. And at the end, 111 voted. It is believed to have been the only time a tax debate has steadily filled a hall, rather than emptying it.

Light years ahead

EXPANSION of Arthur Andersen has brought technological marvels. Its new offices in the Strand have no light switches. Bafflingly, the lights are operated from the telephones. Arthur Andersen's people, as we all know, work 24-hour days, eight days a week. For them, the problems of dialling home and having all the lights go out is a common one.

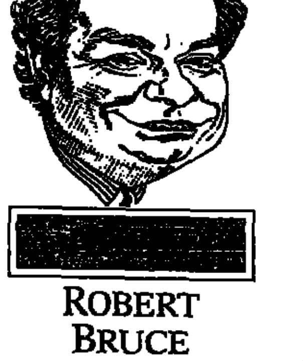
ROBERT BRUCE

Uneasy lies the truce that cloaks tax world

TAX can never be fair. As long as one group within society is charged, theoretically by the rest of society, with the task of removing a percentage of everyone's income then there will always be grumbling, at the very least.

The best that can be hoped for is an uneasy truce, a belief that a difficult job is being done with great efficiency and as much fairness as its complexity will allow. The trouble is that it is now generally believed that what had always been a rather bumpy playing field is being turned into an increasingly steep slope towards the Inland Revenue.

Last November the Hardman memorial lecture, given by David Goldberg, QC, put the issues fairly and squarely. Last week the tax faculty of the English ICA held a public debate to extend and air the topic. A decade ago such a debate could have been held round a table in one of the committee rooms. It is a measure of the passions aroused and the feeling that this issue is now crucial to the survival of the traditions of the tax world that the great hall of the institute was packed with a quality audience.



ROBERT BRUCE

The tax world has changed. What used to be a highly intellectual but relatively intimate world is being pulled asunder. Tax is now big business. And as a consequence the safety valves and buffers that used to prevent what is essentially an adversarial process from becoming nasty and unproductive are less in evidence.

The debate was over the extent and control of Revenue discretion. Goldberg, in his lecture, argued that the Inland Revenue, in changing its culture to that of a combative business, was throwing away the give-and-take that allowed its relationship with tax advisers and their clients to be as fair as possible. Innocent people were automatically being threatened with blunt instruments.

In the debate, Graham Aaronson, QC, the chairman of the Revenue Bar Association, argued that controls over the Revenue had been weakened. Both politicians and the law were to blame. "Ministers kowtow to the Revenue", he argued. And he lambasted the courts for "the mealy-mouthed way they supervise the Revenue's discretion".

John Gribbon, head of the Revenue's compliance division, argued that "the Revenue's discretion is highly controlled". And maybe it is. It is not something you can objectively test. Tim Smith, the MP and chartered accountant who sits on the Public Accounts Committee, argued that there had to be "a trade-off between discretion and fairness", and that the Revenue should be given the benefit of the doubt.

But changes ahead will alter the whole tax scene and greatly increase the number of times that the Revenue feels it has to resort to a blunt instrument to exact justice, and will greatly increase the times when a tax adviser would want guidance in the form of a pre-transaction ruling.

In the first case, self-assessment is going to change everything. As David Frost, the new president of the Institute of Taxation, said in his inaugural address this week, "unless great care is exercised the system itself will inexorably lead us all down the adversarial road to conflict".

The sheer scale of the self-assessment programme makes this almost inevitable. In Frost's view, "the generation by computer of automatic interest charges and penalties sent to taxpayers or to our clients direct will lead to friction between taxpayer and the Inland Revenue, and client and professional adviser". Random and selective audits will do the same. "We have already heard from several sources," he continued, "that inspectors will feel obliged, when starting an audit, to ask every conceivable question on all aspects of the tax return, rather than specific questions on items which give cause for concern. A blunderbuss approach it would seem."

Likewise the need for pre-transaction rulings will mushroom under self-assessment. As the tax committee of the Scots ICA recently put it: "If taxpayers are to be responsible for assessing their own tax bills they need to know with certainty what their liabilities will be."

The Revenue line is that most people wanting a pre-transaction ruling are seeking it to test out what they think is a wizard wheeze in the tax-avoidance business. Not so, argued the Scots. "Requests for pre-transaction rulings are the result of complexities of tax law rather than a desire to construct tax-avoidance schemes."

The truth is that in recent years tax has become a high-profile topic. For one thing virtually every political argument in recent years has centred on tax. And as more people take an interest their tax affairs become more complex. More people are needed to sort things out and maintain the peace. This is true on both sides. The tax advisory business is booming. The Revenue needs many more staff to handle the huge increase in work. Sadly the politicians have told them to cut staff and put their faith in computers. The balance in sorting out the justice of any particular case tilts once more. Unless everyone is careful, the uneasy truce will become open warfare.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	227.30	240.60	+ 0.30	0.14
Grofund Equity	273.20	290.60†	- 1.30	1.26
Grofund Euro	272.50	288.40	- 1.10	0.56
Grofund Expt Bal	132.60	137.40		2.58
Grofund Gilt	76.37	78.78	- 0.06	6.13
Grofund Japan	190.20	201.20	- 0.40	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	654.50	696.30	- 1.70	2.48
General Inc	556.10	591.60	- 1.40	2.48
UK Growth Acc	443.70	472.10†	- 1.50	2.69
UK Growth Inc	291.30	309.90†	- 1.10	2.69
Higher Inc Acc	784.90	835.10†	- 5.20	4.17
Higher Inc Inc	428.20	455.60†	- 2.80	4.17
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	205.20	216.80	- 0.80	5.77
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	92.11	97.30	- 0.37	5.77
Nth America	406.70	432.70†	+ 1.80	.
Europe	361.80	384.90	- 0.80	0.42
Brit Excell	88.24	93.88†	- 0.11	2.88
Brit Fndmtls Acc	114.60	122.00	- 0.80	4.66
Brit Fndmtls Inc	78.56	83.58	- 0.54	4.66
Global Opps	109.60	116.60†	+ 0.40	0.10
Balanced Acc	63.45	67.51†	- 0.18	2.61
Balanced Inc	60.02	63.86†	- 0.18	2.61
Japan Acc	50.54	53.77†	+ 0.13	.
Pac Basin Acc	429.20	456.60†	+ 1.20	0.80
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	128.90	136.70	- 0.50	7.32
High Inc Equity	182.30	195.00†	- 1.00	4.42
Worldwide Bond	287.30	304.60†	- 0.30	4.80
American Growth	380.00	406.70	+ 0.10	0.18
Asian Pacific	353.40	378.00		0.08
Assets & Earnings	307.70	327.30†	+ 0.50	2.56
Euro Capital Acc	183.10	195.30	- 0.80	0.81
Extra Inc	43.82	46.62†	- 0.10	8.11
General	282.20	300.20	- 0.40	2.92
Global Opps	71.27	75.82	+ 0.06	0.53
Japan	134.10	143.40	- 0.60	
Managed Inc	48.25	51.33†	- 0.16	4.53
Masterfund	172.70	184.70	- 0.10	1.33
US Emerging Cos	236.00	251.10	+ 2.40	.
Ethical	84.15	89.52	- 0.06	2.50
International	145.90	155.30		0.25
Dividend & Growth	68.44	72.81	- 0.36	4.22
Global Cwth & Sec	72.94	77.93	- 0.06	2.46
Latin America	67.14	71.43	- 0.30	
Capital Reserve	143.50	143.50		5.23
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	102.02	108.72	- 0.30	2.26
American Portfolio	123.93	131.65	- 0.02	0.87
European Portfolio	131.87	140.62	+ 0.29	0.63
High Income	50.42	53.54†	- 0.21	7.89
Japanese Portfolio	74.69	79.34	- 0.07	
Pacific Portfolio	164.07	175.42	+ 0.08	1.35
UK Equity	97.42	103.95	- 0.53	3.06
UK Equity & Gil	55.11	58.42	- 0.64	8.43
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	759.61	771.09	.	4.20
Fxd In Sec	154.91	156.58		9.19
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	744.82	755.88	...	4.34
Investment Acc	523.58	534.07	.	.
Fixed Int Inc	124.81	125.31		9.26
Fixed Int Acc	217.23	218.11		..
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Bucknam Intl	88.73	93.71	+ 0.03	3.17
Beck Bio-Tech	51.92	55.95	.	..
Acorn Ethical Tst	190.55	200.09	..	0.56
City Fin Assets	82.97	87.13†	..	1.54
City Fin America	126.56	132.90	+ 4.80	.
City Fin Intl	97.84	102.74†	+ 0.72	0.47
City Fin Japan	168.16	174.48	- 0.99	.
Friars Hse Cap	330.15	351.22	...	2.14
Friars Hse Inc	200.44	213.23†		3.81
Buckley Wrld Grth	158.15	167.64	+ 1.83	..
J Sid Inc/Gth Inc	57.38	60.25		1.56
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	59.70	63.34	+ 0.02	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	85.72	91.19	+ 0.02	.
Dragon Growth	76.66	81.98	+ 0.30	0.34
Equity High Inc	89.78	95.51	- 0.42	4.13
-do- Accum	126.36	134.43	- 0.59	4.13
Extra Income Inc	26.01	27.37	- 0.05	7.53
Extra Income Acc	27.82	29.27	- 0.06	7.53
European Gwth	64.35	68.28	- 0.24	0.88
Evergreen	33.24	35.55	+ 0.16	.
General Equity	101.38	107.57	- 0.20	2.89
Japan Growth	56.77	60.39	- 0.22	..
Pedigree Gwth	63.29	67.33	- 0.18	2.38
Ped Sm Cos Inc	39.39	41.90†	- 0.03	1.21
-do- Accum	41.72	44.38	- 0.04	1.21

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 261010				
Sector Value Inc #	99.33	105.50†	- 0.20	3.90
Sector Value Gwth	101.10	106.70†	- 0.10	2.17
Hy 5 Europe	100.20	105.10†	- 0.70	2.65
Slater Gwth	145.30	153.20	+ 0.30	.
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	256.90	272.30	- 2.40	
Income #	213.67	227.30	- 0.11	4.76
UK Growth	85.29	90.73	- 0.10	1.89
Intl Growth	93.37	99.32	- 0.51	0.43
Ecology	107.50	114.35†	- 0.09	0.94
European	193.62	205.98	- 0.16	..
Far Eastern	333.70	354.90	+ 0.50	.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
N Amer Growth	140.93	149.68	+ 0.31	0.68
Special Sits Growth	27.13	28.85	+ 0.02	1.89
UK Growth	449.27	477.94†	- 0.49	2.54
-do- Accum	609.61	648.52	- 0.66	2.54
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1502.90	1574.40†	.	2.90
Income #	1033.10	1049.60	.	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	168.40	172.80		3.50

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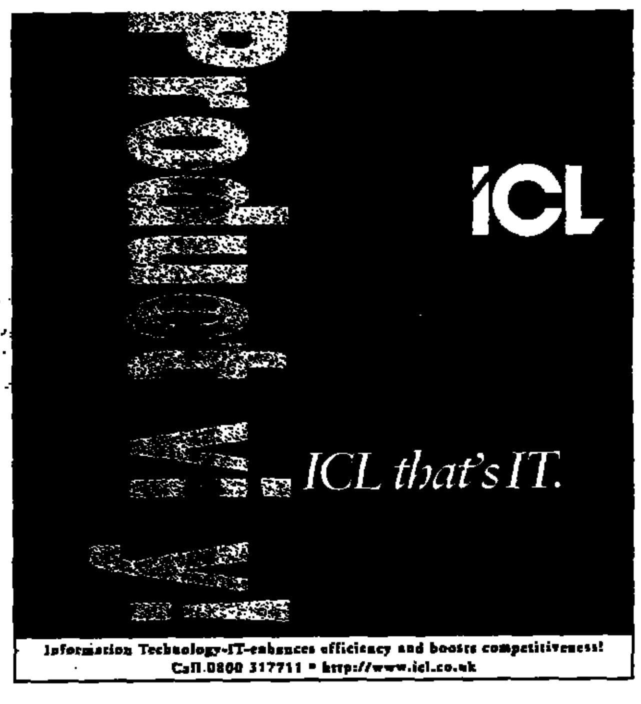

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	99.25	102.70	- 0.20	7.58
Gilt Yield	117.20	123.60	- 0.40	6.88
Global Income	238.10	253.30†	- 0.10	3.50
High Yield	153.80	162.80†	- 0.50	5.51
-do- Accum	491.90	523.30†	- 1.70	5.51
Smllr Cos Div	84.44	88.55†	+ 0.07	3.14
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	167.40	178.10	+ 1.50	
Asian Growth	368.10	391.60	- 0.30	0.21
-do- Accum	432.60	460.70	- 0.40	0.21
North American	112.50	119.70	+ 0.11	0.22
European Special	130.60	138.90	+ 0.60	0.09
European	181.30	192.90	- 0.20	0.42
-do- Accum	239.10	254.40	- 0.20	0.42

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
M & S Inv Ptflo	178.50	184.00	- 0.50	2.35
-do- Accum	209.50	216.00	- 0.50	2.35
UK Sel Ptflo	155.50	160.30	- 0.80	2.41
-do- Accum	184.80	190.50	- 0.70	2.41
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	72.89	77.54		3.90
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	83.74	88.90	- 0.59	3.95
European	105.50	112.00	- 0.30	0.43
Income #	83.09	88.21†	- 0.70	4.60
Nth American	95.94	101.80	+ 0.40	0.27

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Losses across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
558	478½	Allied Domecq†	479	− 6	8.2	18.1
625	500	Bulmer (HP)	594		2.6	18.6
131	115	Burn Stewart	115		5.4	24.8
650	615	Glenmorangie A	633		2.2	17.8
464	411	Grand Met	444	− 1½	4.4	18.6
493	435	Guinness	474	− 6	3.9	15.5
377	315	Highland Distil	373		2.7	17.4
195	150	Macallan-Glen	168		1.1	34.5
792	655	Matthew Clark	790		3.5	
131	93	Merrydown W	124	− 6	2.0	
2612½	1706¼	SA Breweries	1875		2.0	

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3584¾	2743¾	ABN-AMRO	3393¾	+ 12½	4.1	11.7
653	529	Abbey Nat	562	− 11	4.8	10.8
365	322	Allied Irish	350		4.9	10.2
335	299	Aust New Z	317	+ 3	6.0	8.4
5243¾	3843¾	Bank America†	5012½			
316	235½	Bank Scotland†	288	− 11	3.2	12.7
819	683	Barclays	776	− 6	4.2	10.1
486	422	Bk of Ireland	466	− 1	4.2	
482	403	Cater Allen	403		9.3	6.7
5487½	4031¼	Citicorp	5487½			
392	318	Close Bros	374	+ 8	3.0	16.6
£157⅞	£141¼	Commerzbk	£146¼	+ 37½	3.5	..
1350	1171½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1212½	+ 3¼	0.4	
3412½	2978½	Deutsche Bk	3206¼	+ 12½	2.2	
803⅞	583¾	Espirito Santo	778⅝	+ 3⅞	4.7	10.2
1507	1265½	Fuji Bank Y	1433¾	− 1½	0.4	
472	370	Gerrard Nat	370		7.6	11.9
252	198	Hambros	236		4.0	
1125	931	HSBC†	987	− 3	4.1	10.5
1098	930	HSBC HK†	985	+ 1	4.1	10.5
421	385	Irish Perm†	396		3.2	10.8
173	143	King Shaxson	172		6.5	13.4
453	448	Leopold J	453		5.2	15.6
347½	294½	Lloyds TSB	314½	− 11½	3.1	13.8
640	576	Nat Aust Bk	628	+ 7	7.2	7.7
711	608	Nat West	627	− 12	5.0	8.8
66	58	Rea Brothers	58		2.1	27.5
595	493	Ryl Bk Scot†	530	− 6	4.0	12.0
1380	1185	Schroders	1320	− 3	1.5	18.4
1128	890	Schroders N/V	1038	− 5	1.9	14.5
116	99½	Singer & Fried†	111		4.5	9.2
662½	547	Stand Chart†	629	− 6	2.2	13.7
105	85½	Union	98	− 1	3.8	
£174⅛	£131⅞	Wells Fargo	£160⅞	+ 112½	2.1	
329½	284	Westpac	310½	+ 2¼	4.7	
305	268	Wintrust	303		4.8	17.3

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
50	36	Aberdn Stk H©	36			7.8
370	263	Ascot Hldgs	370			0.7
799	702	Bass	788	+ 20	3.7	16.8
70	42	Brit Ir Be Bdr	42	− ¼	4.9	11.0
177	161	Burtonwd Brw	162		4.2	15.7
123	92	City Centre Rest†	116		2.4	21.9
552	463	Compass Gp	543	− 1	1.8	25.7
263	190	Eldridge P 'A'©	249	− 2	2.4	22.8
515	473	Fuller Sm 'A'©	513		2.1	20.2
636	551	Greenalls Grp	589	+ 1½	3.1	15.8
695	604	Greene King	684		2.6	16.8
278	224	Grosvenor Inns	276		2.5	29.3
254	204	Groupe Chez Ger	233	+ 4	1.4	23.6
357	300	Hardy Hanson	301	− 6	4.2	11.2
230	155	Heavitree	210		3.5	12.7
3475	3085	Holt Jt	3175		2.2	17.2

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
548	425	Bemrose†	543	− 2	3.3	
22	18	Bridgend Gp	21		1.2	
104	76	Brit Fittings†	104	+ 1	4.3	14.3
290	245	Caliper	285		5.0	10.7
152½	105	Caverdale†	149		2.5	10.0
96	65½	Central Mtr	95		0.7	
107½	78	Charles Sidney	102	− 2	4.7	15.8
64	54½	Cook (DC)	64		3.3	9.4
389	297	Cowie	389		3.3	14.6
175	120½	Dag Motors†	163		5.9	
163	125½	Dermans El	160		2.0	14.4
434	385	Diploma	394		4.7	17.7
407	328	Electrocomponts	403	+ 1	1.9	27.3
314	213	Europe Elec	230		2.4	16.5
133	66	Eurodollar	132		7.4	7.9
106	76	European Mtr	95	+ 2	6.8	8.2
375	286	Evans Halshaw	375		5.5	13.6
67	53	Fife Indmar	53	− 2	7.8	
323	248	Finelist Grp	323		2.2	19.0
30	16½	Gardiner	29½		3.6	11.8
64½	33½	Glenchewton	57½		2.0	42.2
90	84	Gowrings	89		3.9	
262	216	Harris (Philip)	262	+ 1	3.5	16.7
275	200½	Headlam	275		2.2	21.6
668	497	Henlys	655		2.3	19.2
200	132	Holders Tech©▼	195		3.9	..
185	153	IEA Intl	178	− 1	1.7	18.0
316	231	Inchcape†	290	+ 2	4.0	
60	33	Jacks (Wm)	48		4.7	18.2
231	169	Kwik-Fit	231		2.7	16.2
369	299	Lex Service	363	− 1	5.2	13.2
147¼	119	Lookers	142		7.0	8.3
17	10½	Malaya Grp	13		6.3	13.4
9¼	7¼	Middlesex©	7¼	+ ¼	1.3	
47	31	Mosstates	39½	− ¼		9.0
565	440	Norbain	533		1.8	18.1
315	232	Northamber	314	+ 10	0.7	25.2
162	108	PCT©†	123	+ 2	7.8	
341	272	Pendragon	340	− 1	3.3	17.3
211	145	Perry Grp	195	+ ¼	5.1	11.7
743	603	Premier Farnell†	743	+ 2	1.8	
165	135	Quicks Group†	165		4.7	13.8
289	185	REA	289	+ 6	1.8	38.2
3	2	Reecy	2½	..		
61	39	Ronson	45	..	4.3	
4¼	2	Ross Gp	3½	..		
55	48	SEP Intl	50½	+ 2½	4.0	11.8
195	120	Saltire	164	− 11	0.8	21.8
373	246	Time Products	373	+ 1	3.4	..
41	30	Tozer Hire	37		4.3	19.4
326	268	Vardy (Reg)	326		2.3	18.1
413	325	Wholesale Ftgs	389		3.8	21.2
59	31½	Walshaw	41	− ¼	2.4	9.7
143	78	Wyko	127		1.7	..
133	104	Young (H)	133		3.7	15.5

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
0¼	0¼	Anglo Utd	0½	..		
388	288	Antofagasta	378	+ 5	1.7	12.6
1058	896	Broken Hill	993	+ 17	2.6	21.0
340	288½	BTR†	290	− 4½	6.3	12.0
586	477	BAT†	503	− 7	6.0	10.5
217	181	Bersford Intl	210	− 1	1.8	20.4
134	111	Bibby (J)	137		6.3	10.1
63¼	50¼	Brierley Inv	58¾	..	8.0	3.0
972	817	Charter†	966		3.6	14.3
328	282	Cookson†	314		3.2	16.5
181	141	Cosalt	180		6.4	11.1
270	204	DCC†	270	+ 4	3.3	
140	120	Grampian Hdgt	135		5.6	15.0
220	179	Hanson	192¼	− ¼	7.9	8.8
172½	141½	Harrison Crsfld	144	− 1	7.8	15.3
439¼	379½	Hutch Whamp	416	− 1½	1.9	21.8

Law Report May 23 1996 House of Lords

Asylum applicant disqualified through non-political crime

T v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley and Lord Lloyd of Berwick

[Speeches May 22]

Involvement in an airport bomb attack in which 10 people died disqualified an applicant for political asylum from the protection of the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) (Cmd 9171) as it was too remote from his political purpose to be a political crime or, as a terrorist offence, it was not a political crime.

Accordingly, the Immigration Appeal Tribunal had been entitled to hold that there were serious reasons for considering that the applicant had committed a serious non-political crime outside the United Kingdom and was excluded by article 1F(b) of the Convention from the protection of article 33(1).

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the applicant, T, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Glidewell and Lord Justice Simon Brown) (*The Times* November 9, 1994; [1995] 1 WLR 545) who had dismissed his appeal from the appeal tribunal which had dismissed his appeal from a special adjudicator, who had dismissed his appeal against the refusal by the Home Secretary of his application for political asylum.

Article 33 of the Geneva Convention provides: "(1) No contracting state shall expel or return ('refouler') a refugee ... to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion."

Article 1 provides: "F. The provisions of this Convention shall not apply to any person with respect to whom there are serious reasons for considering that ... (b) he has committed a serious non-political crime outside the country of refuge prior to his admission to that country as a refugee..."

Paragraph 328 of the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (1994) (HC 394) provides: "All asylum applications will be determined by the secretary of state in accordance with the United Kingdom's obligations under [the Convention]."

Mr Nicholas Blake, QC and Mr Richard Scannell for T; Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Neil Garnham for the immigration officer.

LORD MUSTILL said that during the *nineteenth century* those who used violence to challenge despotic regimes *often occupied the high moral ground* and were welcomed in foreign countries *as true patriots and democrats.*

Now much had changed. The authors of violence were more ruthless, their methods more destructive and indiscriminating; their targets were no longer ministers and heads of state but the populace at large; and their aims and ideals were frequently no more congenial to the countries in which they took refuge than those of the regimes whom they sought to displace.

Those fundamental changes in method and perception had not been matched by changes in the parallel, although not identical laws of extradition and asylum. The exceptional difficulty of the appeal was that the courts here, as in other legal systems, had to struggle to apply a concept that was out of date.

T was an illegal immigrant, having entered the United Kingdom under a false name and papers. He was a national of Algeria and a member of a group named FIS, which, according to the evidence on his behalf, had been cheated of success in a democratic election and had had recourse to violent means aimed at displacing the ruling powers.

Among the activities of FIS in which T had played a part had been the detonation of a bomb at an airport in Algeria; 10 people had been killed, none of them having had, so far as was known, any connection with the opponents of T's group or with the struggle in which the group was engaged. Unfortunately, the way in which that apparently random violence might have served the ends of FIS had not been explored in the proceedings. Their Lordships had little more than one or two statements by T in evidence that the objective of the bomb had been to hit the national economy rather than kill people. He had also admitted to some degree of involvement in an attack on an army barracks in which one person had died.

To his Lordship's mind, the whole *trend of the more modern decisions and* writings was towards an acceptance that certain acts of violence, even if political in a narrow sense, were beyond the pale and that they should not be condoned by offering sanctuary to those who committed them.

The appeal tribunal had found that T had been actively involved in a terrorist organisation that was prepared to advance its aims by random killings. It had concluded that it would be against common sense and right reason to characterise indiscriminate bombings that led to the deaths of innocent people as political crimes so as to remove them from article 1F(b) and that it could not have been the intention of the Convention to accord protection to those who engaged in the terrorist activities in which T engaged.

The Court of Appeal had said (at p559): "the airport bombing ... was an atrocious act, grossly out of proportion to any genuine political objective. There was simply no sufficiently close or direct causal link between it and T's alleged political purpose."

The conception that there had to be a causal link, and an absence of remoteness, between the political situation of which the refugee formed part and the crime that he had committed drew its authority, if not its origin, from Lord Diplock's speech in *R v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Cheng* ([1973] AC 931, 944-945).

The principle had been applied in *R v Governor of Winson Green Prison, Ex parte Littlejohn* ([1975] 1 WLR 893). It was one of a battery of tests proposed in the *Handbook on Procedures and Criteria for Determining Refugee Status* (2nd edition (1988)), published by the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; and it had been adopted, at least as a theory, in North America.

Yet there were serious problems. The difficult decision on whether there was a sufficient discontinuity between the political aim and the crime to mean that the crime was to be treated as "common" was not made any easier by using "causation" in a special sense. It was safer to rely on the words of the *Convention.*

So also with "remoteness". To introduce into the international law of asylum and extradition a test derived from the specialist English law of damages took the inquiry nowhere, except back to the central issue. To say that the political aim had to cause the crime, or that the crime must not be too remote from the aim, did no more than assert that the crime had to be really political in nature to fall within the exception.

His Lordship would also reject the test of "proportionality" and a theme that had appealed to judges in the United States and Canada that those who had committed unpleasant crimes were unwelcome. Article 1F(b) assumed that a person who had committed a serious crime, which might make him just as unwelcome in the country of refuge, was immune from refoulement so long as his offence could be characterised as political.

At the heart of the case was the Home Secretary's contention, with much support from decided cases and texts, that the point at which criminal conduct that would otherwise be political lost that attribute was when it could be described as "an atrocity" or "terrorism". His *Lordship* preferred terrorism as a test because it concentrated on the method of the offence rather than its physical manifestation.

It seemed to him in a real sense that a political crime, the killing of A by B to *achieve an end, involved a direct* relationship between the ideas of the *criminal* and the *victim,* which was absent in the depersonalised and abstract violence that killed 20, or three, *or* none, it mattered not how many or whom so long as the broad effect was achieved. His Lordship found it hard to believe that the human rights of the fugitive could ever have been intended to outweigh that cold indifference to the human rights of the uninvolved.

Article 1 of the League of Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Terrorism, 1937 provided: "2 'Acts of terrorism' mean *criminal acts directed against a state* and intended or calculated to create a *state of terror in the minds of particular* persons, or a group of persons or the general public." That Convention had never come into force, but the definition was useful.

A substantial point of difference between extradition and asylum was that in extradition the political nature of the offence was an exception to the general duty to return the fugitive whereas in asylum there was a general duty not to perform a refoulement unless the crime was non-political.

That distinction might be of great practical importance where reliable information was at a discount.

In the present case, however, his *Lordship was persuaded, while sharing* the hesitations of the Court of Appeal, *that the material showed the airport* bombing to have been a terrorist offence and that there had been *grounds on* which the appeal tribunal could properly find that the same applied to the attack on the army barracks.

LORD SLYNN said that he had doubts as to whether the test of remoteness was satisfactory in itself. Whether there was a sufficiently direct *link between the criminal act* and a political objective might pose an extremely *difficult question to resolve and* risk fine lines being drawn.

His Lordship was not, for example, at all certain that for a terrorist group to *rob a bank for the express and sole* purpose of buying Semtex or guns to *achieve political ends* was clearly too remote or indirect to be regarded as a *political crime,* as *had been said in* earlier cases.

His Lordship did not wish to do anything to undermine the importance of genuine *political fugitives, even those* who had committed serious crimes, from being granted asylum. Without resort, however, to tests like remoteness and proportionality, "political crime" did not as a matter of interpretation of the Convention and the Immigration Rules include acts of violence that were intended or likely to create a state of terror in the minds of persons, whether *particular persons or the* general public, and that caused, or were likely to cause *injury to persons who had no connection* with the government of the state.

That was not intended to be a complete definition. There might be other acts that constituted *terrorism that* were far outside the concept of "political crime".

LORD LLOYD said that he agreed with the reasoning of the Court of *Appeal.*

The importance of *Cheng* lay in Lord Diplock's discussion of the word "political". If the accused had killed a dictator in the hope of changing the government of the country his object would be sufficiently immediate to justify the epithet "political" for politics were about government. But if he had robbed a bank to obtain funds to support a political party the object would be too remote to constitute a political offence.

In other words, a crime would only be regarded as a political offence if the relationship between the act and the effect on the government was sufficiently close.

Another important source of law, although it did not have the force of law itself, was the UN *Handbook* paragraph 151 of which stated:

"In determining whether an offence is 'non-political' or is, on the contrary, a 'political' crime, regard should be given in the first place to its nature and *purpose, that is, whether it has been* committed out of genuine political *motives* and not merely for *personal* reasons or gain.

"*There should also be a close and* direct causal link between the crime *committed and its alleged political* purpose and object. The political element *of the offence should also outweigh* its common law character. This would not be the case if *the acts committed* are grossly out of proportion to the alleged objective. The political nature of the offence *is also more difficult to accept* if it involves acts of an atrocious nature."

Taking the various sources of law into account, one could arrive at the following definition. A crime was a political crime for the purposes of article 1F(b) if:

1 It was committed for a political *purpose, that* was to say, with the object of overthrowing or subverting or changing *the government* of a state or inducing it to change its policy; and

2 there was a *sufficiently close* and *direct* link between the crime and the alleged political purpose.

In determining whether such a link existed, the court would bear in mind the means used to achieve the political end and would have particular regard to whether the crime had been aimed at a military or government target or a civilian target and in either event whether it had been likely to involve the *indiscriminate* killing or injuring of members of the public.

T satisfied the first, or subjective, condition, but did he satisfy the second, *or objective, condition?*

On the findings of the appeal tribunal, *he had been an active member of* a terrorist organisation *that* had been *prepared to advance its aims by random* killings. He had been closely associated *with the airport* attack.

Although the airport itself could be *regarded* as a governmental target, the crime as carried out had been almost *bound to involve the killing of members* of the public. The means used had been indiscriminate, and therefore the link between the crime and the political object that T had been seeking to achieve had been too remote.

The appeal tribunal had accordingly been entitled to hold that there were serious reasons for considering that T had committed a serious non-political crime outside the United Kingdom. It was unnecessary to consider whether the attack on the barracks had also been a serious non-political crime.

Lord Keith and Lord Browne-Wilkinson agreed with Lord Lloyd.

Solicitors: Jane Coker & Partners; Treasury Solicitor.

Common terms of employment are comparable rather than identical

British Coal Corporation v Smith and Others

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Steyn and Lord Hoffmann

[*Speeches May 22*]

For the purpose of considering whether men and women were to be treated as being in the same employment under section 1(2)(c) of the Employment Protection Act 1970, as amended by section 8(1) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and regulation 2(1) of the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations (SI 1983 No 1794), "common terms and conditions of employment" in section 1(6) of the 1970 Act, as amended by section 8(6) of and Schedule 1, Part I, paragraph 1(1) to the 1975 Act, meant terms and conditions that were on a broad basis substantially comparable, rather than identical, and it was for the industrial tribunal to decide on the evidence what was or were the relevant class or classes for which such terms and conditions were observed.

The question under section 1(3) of the *1970 Act, as substituted* by section 8(1) of the 1975 Act, whether a variation in terms was genuinely due to a material factor other than the difference of sex was also one of fact for the tribunal.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by British Coal Corporation in respect of section 1(3) and allowed a cross-appeal by the applicants, Mrs Evelyn Ann Smith and 1285 others, in respect of section 1(6) from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Roch) (*The Times* May 11, 1994; [1994] ICR 810), who had (i) allowed British Coal's appeal from the Employment Appeal Tribunal (*The Times* February 23, 1993; [1993] ICR 529) in respect of section 1(6); (ii) allowed the appeal of 20 cleaners in respect of section 1(3) and (iii) allowed an appeal by canteen manageresses in respect of section 1(3) from the decision of the appeal tribunal that they could not rely on a comparison with a clerical worker.

The appeal tribunal had allowed in part, in respect of cleaners under section *1(3), British Coal's* appeal from an interlocutory decision of an *industrial tribunal* on a preliminary issue arising in an equal pay application by the applicants.

The House of Lords restored the decision of the industrial tribunal.

Section 1 of the 1970 Act, as amended and substituted, provides: "(1) ... (c) where a woman is employed on work which ... is, in terms of the demands made on her (for instance under such headings as effort, skill and decision), of equal value to that of a man in the same employment — (i) if (apart from the equality clause) at any time the woman's contract is ... less favourable to the woman than a term of a similar kind in the contract under which that man is employed, that term of the woman's contract *shall* be treated as so modified as not to be less favourable...

"(3) An equality clause shall not operate in relation to a variation between the woman's contract and the man's contract if the employer proves that the variation is genuinely due to a material factor which *is not* the difference of sex...

"(6) ... men shall be treated as in the same employment with a woman if they are men employed by her employer or any associated employer at the same establish*ment or at establishments in Great* Britain which include that one and *at which common terms and* conditions are observed either *generally* or *for employees of the* relevant classes."

Mr Nicholas Underhill, QC and Mr Bankim Thanki for British Coal; Mr Michael Beloff, QC, Mr Jeremy McMullen, QC and Miss *Jennifer Eady for the applicants.*

LORD SLYNN said that the appeals illustrated once again the difficult questions that could arise under the Act. That these particular proceedings had taken such an extraordinary amount of time was, however, much to be regretted since many of the claims had been lodged over 10 years ago. It clearly defeated an essential purpose of the legislation if employees could not enforce such rights as they had within a reasonable time.

The industrial tribunal, to the clarity of whose decison and the care with which it had been written *his Lordship* paid tribute, had found that it was concerned with four broad categories of worker: (i) canteen workers, who overall in British Coal's employment were predominantly women; (ii) cleaners, *mainly* women; *(iii) clerical* workers, approximately half men and *half* women; and *(iv) surface* mineworkers, men.

The applicants, employed at 47 different establishments, had named a substantial number of comparators at 14 different *establishments.* Those were usually surface mineworkers, although a number of the applicants in the canteen worker category had named a clerical worker as their comparator. Some of the comparators worked at the same mines as the respective applicants; some worked at other mines of premises of British Coal.

The industrial tribunal with the parties' agreement had ordered that before obtaining experts' reports on whether the work of individuals was of equal value with that of one or more of the named comparators two preliminary issues should be resolved:

"(a) whether the applicants who have named comparators who do not work at the same establishment as they do are in the 'same employment' as those said comparators for the purposes of section 1(6) ... and (b) whether [British Coal] can succeed at the preliminary stage with a 'genuine material factor' defence under ... section 1(3) ... based upon separate wage structures."

It had not been disputed that the comparators, surface mineworkers or clerical workers, *had* more lucrative remuneration packages than the applicants who *had* named them.

The first question, however, had been whether the canteen workers and cleaners could compare themselves with surface mineworkers *and clerical workers who worked* at other establishments, it not *being disputed that they could take* a comparator from their own *colliery or workplace.*

The tribunal had directed itself *that what was required was a* "broad comparison". It had concluded that surface mineworkers at different locations were in the same employment. It had found that canteen workers at different places of work, whose conditions were governed by national agreements and who received incentive bonuses at the same basic rate, even though with local variations resulting from differences in underground mineworkers' pay, and who got no concessionary fuel as the mineworkers did, were employed in the same conditions and in the same employment. Since their conditions were dealt *with centrally,* clerical workers and cleaners were also treated as *in the* same employment with British Coal.

As to section *1(3),* the tribunal had emphasised that the mere existence of separate pay structures could not itself amount to a defence: *it still had* to be asked whether the pay structures themselves arose because of a difference of sex.

The tribunal had concluded that the different treatment of surface mineworkers and canteen workers was not due to a desire to treat ancillary workers differently without regard to sex. British Coal had failed to prove a genuine material factor defence. It had come to the same conclusion in respect of the comparisons between canteen workers and clerical workers and between cleaners one the one hand and surface mineworkers and clerical workers on the other.

The tribunal had indicated that it would examine the comparators chosen closely to see whether such a wide range was justified and that it would consider whether representative claims should go forward for expert assessment as to whether the jobs were of equal value.

The Court of Appeal had held that in section 1(6) "common" meant "the same" and that the respective terms and conditions had to be the same at any rate in relation to the relevant classes of employees.

Moreover, it was not just the term complained of as being *discriminatory that* had to be the same: a comparison had to be *made of* all *the terms, although* it was not necessary that the terms *and conditions of employment of* woman employees were common or the *same* at both *establish*ments. They had held that the tribunal had erred in treating the comparators named at establishments other than those at which the applicants themselves were employed as being in the same employment as the applicants.

It was plain that from the outset of the 1970 legislation, although the woman had to show that her comparators were employed by her employer or an associated employer and could not point to higher wages being paid by other employers, she was not limited to male workers from the place where she herself worked.

The reason was obvious since *otherwise an employer could* so arrange things as to ensure that *only women worked as a particular* establishment or that no man who could reasonably be considered as a possible comparator should work there.

Common terms and conditions *had, however, to be observed* either generally or for employees *of the relevant classes. Subject to a* misdirection in law it was for the *tribunal to decide on the evidence* what was or were the relevant class or classes. *Having regard to* the nature of the work and the *different ways in which their* pay structures were established the *tribunal had been perfectly entitled* to take the various categories of *worker separately.*

Dictionary definitions of "com*mon" did not help. The real* question was what the legislation *had been trying to achieve.*

Had it been seeking to exclude a *woman's claim unless, subject* to de minimis exceptions, there was *complete identity* of terms and conditions for the comparator at *his establishment* and those *that* applied or would apply to a similar *male worker at her establishment?*

Or had it been seeking to establish that the terms and conditions of the relevant class were sufficiently *similar* for a fair comparison to be made?

If it was the former, the woman would fail at the first hurdle if *there was* any difference, other than de minimis, between the terms and conditions of the men at the various establishments since *she could not then show* that they were in the same employment as *she was.*

That could not have been intended. The purpose of requiring common terms and conditions was to avoid it being said simply "a gardener does work of equal value to mine and my comparator at another establishment is a gardener". The applicant had to go further and show that gardeners at other establishments and at her establishment were or would be employed on broadly similar terms. That was necessary, but it was also sufficient.

Whether any differences were justified would depend on the next stage of the examination under section 1(3). That inquiry, where the onus was on the employer, had not been intended to be excluded unless the terms and conditions of the men at the various establishments were identical. That was far too restrictive a test.

The "broad comparison" test was supported by *Leverton v Clwyd County Council* ([1989] AC 706, 717 and 745) by Lord Justice May and Lord Bridge of Harwich. The tribunal had not erred in law and there had clearly been material on which it could base its finding that the applicants and their comparators were in the same employment.

In the absence of a misdirection in law the question under section 1(3) was also essentially one of fact for the tribunal. The tribunal had been entitled to accept that the differentiation was based on sex.

It was now necessary for the tribunal to consider what should be the procedure to decide whether the work of the applicants and their comparators was of equal value.

It was no less necessary that all parties should give the most careful consideration to ways of reducing the number of comparisons that had to be made and the factual content of those comparisons, unless of course after this length of time the claims could be disposed of on a broad brush basis, with no doubt concessions on both sides in the interests of avoiding further long delays.

Lord Keith, Lord Browne-Wil*kinson, Lord Steyn and Lord* Hoffmann agreed.

Solicitors: Nabarro Nathanson, Sheffield; Gregory Rowcliffe & *Milners.*

Role of insurance in valuation damages

Europe Mortgage Company v Halifax Estate Agencies

Before Mr Justice May

[Judgment May 2]

In deciding whether the amount of damages to be ordered for liability for *negligently valuing a property,* against which money had been lent, should be reduced to take account of the plaintiff's mortgage indemnity guarantee insurance, the critical questions to be asked were *whether the insurer* had rights of subrogation against the defendant and whether the insurance was designed to benefit the defendant.

The degree of independence of the insurance *arrangement from* the plaintiff's dealings with the defendant and the degree *to which* the plaintiff's advantage under the *insurance resulted from his own* prudence were not helpful *considerations.*

Mr Justice May so held in the Queen's *Bench Division* when granting the application of the Europe Mortgage Company, for part of the defence of Halifax Estate Agencies to be struck out under Order 18, rule 19(1)(a) of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The plaintiffs lent money to a third party against the value of a property which had been valued by the defendants. The plaintiff contended that the valuation was negligently estimated in too large a sum. The plaintiff sought to strike out a subparagraph of the amended defence by which the defendants, if found liable, sought to be credited on the quantification of damages for the value of any *sums received by the plaintiff* under a mortgage indemnity guar*antee policy of insurance taken out* in relation to the advance.

Mr William Bojczuk for the plaintiff; Mr Jason Evans-Tovey *for the defendant.*

MR JUSTICE MAY said that in *Parry v Cleaver* ([1970] AC 1, 14E) Lord Reid had said: "As regards moneys coming to the plaintiff under a contract of insurance ... the real and substantial reason for disregarding them is that the plaintiff has bought them and it would be unjust and unreasonable to hold that the *money* that he prudently spent on premiums and the benefit from it should enure to the benefit of the *tortfeasor.*"

There were at least eight cases in which the *point in issue in the* instant application had been de*cided in favour of the lender.*

Apart from cases where insurance proceeds had been allowed without argument as a credit against lenders' loss, there was one first instance case in favour of the defendant's contention: *Alliance and Leicester Building Society v Edgestop Ltd* (Mr Justice Knox, 1994, unreported).

On an application for an interim payment under Order 29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, Mr Justice Knox had considered whether payments under mortgage indemnity guarantee policies should be taken into account, saying: "I am not satisfied that on the facts of the transactions here in issue the insurance can be accurately described as res inter alios acta. On the contrary the indications are that it was a term of the fraudulently induced transactions that the insurance should be *effected. On that basis* it seems to me more like res inter eosdem *facta, more significantly* something for which on an application *such as that before me I should* require credit to be given."

The defendant submitted that an insurance policy effected before *and independently* of an event which gave rise both to liability of a defendant to a plaintiff and to indemnity under the policy in favour of the plaintiff was to be distinguished from an insurance policy effected as a result of the event which gave rise to such *liability.*

In *Hussain v New Taplow Mills* ([1988] AC 514) Lord Bridge had said that many eminent common law judges had been baffled by the problem of how to articulate a single guiding rule to distinguish receipts by a plaintiff which were to be taken into account in mitigation of damage from those which were not.

It was accepted that a preponderance, perhaps, of the authority that had been referred to expressed, at least in part, the *Parry v Cleaver* principle in terms of causation. That was an elusive concept in the context, since *there* was just as much linguistic sense in saying that mortgage indemnity guarantee insurance proceeds resulted from a valuer's breach of duty as that they resulted independently from the plaintiff's *prudence in effecting the insurance.*

It was difficult to see the intrinsic difference in borderline cases between an event which was causative and one which was merely an antecedent necessity.

Nor was the problem readily answered by inquiring whether the insurance transaction was, or was not, independent of or collateral to the breach of duty, since those expressions were by themselves capable of such a wide spectrum of possible meaning that, without further definition, an answer could not be reached.

It was the nature of the contract, not its temporal or consequential relation to the breach, which should be looked at. The nature of the transaction was one of guarantee and the critical questions were whether the *insurance* or guarantee was effected for the benefit of the *defendant* and whether the insurer or guarantor had, or would in appropriate circumstances have had rights of subrogation *against* the valuers.

Those were really two facets of *the same question.* If the insurance or guarantee was not effected for *the benefit of the defendant,* then it was obvious common sense that he *should* not receive the benefit of it.

There was no basis for contending that any insurance or guarantee of the kind which the *defendants* asserted was effective for their benefit. His Lordship decided the main point in favour of the plaintiff and the subparagraph was to be struck out.

Solicitors: Llewelyn Zietman; Fishburn Boxer.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
DANDY FOODS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of creditors of the above named company will be held at
Messrs. BDO Stoy Hayward,
Beneficial Building,
28 Paradise Circus,
Birmingham B1 2BJ
on Wednesday, 29 May 1996, at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of *Messrs BDO Stoy Hayward, Beneficial Building, 28 Paradise Circus, Birmingham B1 2BJ* on Friday 24 May 1996 and Monday 28 May 1996 (two business days *before the date of the meeting*) between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.
Dated 14th day of May 1996
By Order of the Board
D Kershaw Director

TEAM MANAGEMENT (NORTHERN) LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of creditors of Team Management (Northern) Limited will be held at Price Waterhouse, Abbey House 2, 74 Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3EH on 13 June 1996 at 10.00am under the provisions of Section 23 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of the meeting is to consider the administrators' proposals and if creditors wish to do so, to appoint a committee of creditors.
IMPORTANT: To be able to vote at this meeting, creditors must have submitted details of their claim and, if being represented by proxy, have completed and returned the enclosed form of proxy.
You should send details of your claim and your completed proxy, if appropriate, to Mark Johnstone at 100 Drayton Park, London N5 1ND, to arrive not later than 12 noon on the business day before the meeting.
Creditors who require further advice should contact Mark Johnstone on 0171 704 1616.
PN Spratt, Administrator
16 May 1996

Company Number: 2078062
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
OMNIBOOKS LIMITED
Registered Office: Portland House, Park Street, Bagshot, Surrey GU19 5AQ
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at the offices of Grant Thornton, 1 Westminster Way, Oxford, OX2 0PZ on 29 May 1996 at 11.30 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Information concerning the company or its affairs will be available free of charge from the offices of Tracey Martin, a licensed insolvency practitioner, of Grant Thornton, 1 Westminster Way, Oxford, OX2 0PZ, 01865 244977 during the period up to the meeting of creditors.
DATED THIS 16 DAY OF MAY 1996
Andrew Brooks, Director

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ORDER
Capoco Limited
Registered Number: 337614. Nature of Business: Theatre. Trade classification: 46. Administration Order Made: 14 May 1996. Name: M D Gercke, Joint Administrator. Office holder number: 2360.
Date 17 May 1996
MQ/NA/R/WADCA01/090

TEAM MANAGEMENT (SOUTHERN) LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of creditors of Team Management (Southern) Limited will be held at Price Waterhouse, 10-18 Union Street, London SE1 1SZ Room 302/303 on 7 June 1996 at 10.00am under the provisions of Section 23 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of the meeting is to consider the administrators' proposals and if creditors wish to do so, to appoint a committee of creditors.
IMPORTANT: To be able to vote at this meeting, creditors must have submitted details of their claim and, if being represented by proxy, have completed and returned the enclosed form of proxy.
You should send details of your claim and your completed proxy, if appropriate, to Mark Johnstone at 100 Drayton Park, London N5 1ND, to arrive not later than 12 noon on the business day before the meeting.
Creditors who require further advice should contact Mark Johnstone on 0171 704 1616.
PN Spratt, Administrator
16 May 1996

TEAM MANAGEMENT (SCOTLAND) LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of creditors of Team Management (Scotland) Limited will be held at Price Waterhouse, 1 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, G2 4AD on 12 June 1996 at 10.00am under the provisions of Section 23 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of the meeting is to consider the administrators' proposals and if creditors wish to do so, to appoint a committee of creditors.
IMPORTANT: To be able to vote at this meeting, creditors must have submitted details of their claim and, if being represented by proxy, have completed and returned the enclosed form of proxy.
You should send details of your claim and your completed proxy if appropriate to Mark Johnstone at 100 Drayton Park, London N5 1ND, to arrive not later than 12 noon on the business day before the meeting.
Creditors who require further advice should contact Mark Johnstone on 0171 704 1616.
PN Spratt, Administrator
16 May 1996

AUTOKRAFT LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of the creditors of Autokraft Limited is to be held at No.1 London Bridge on 5 June 1996 at 10.15am under the provisions of section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the report of the receivers and if the creditors wish to do so, to appoint a creditors' committee.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
JA Davis
for MD Gercke, Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BRITANIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 6th June 1996 at 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 4.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA, 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2) (a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
DATED this 15th day of May 1996
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D.C. ELLIOTT, DIRECTOR

SHERWOOD TIMBER LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Tuesday 11 June 1996 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Sections 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr P Lomas of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 20TH DAY OF MAY 1996
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Mr R W Mellor, DIRECTOR

No: 002421/1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF REGINA PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 30 April 1996 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £4,000,000 to £1,339,898.35 and for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company in the sum of £2,675,121.00.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Companies Court Registrar at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday 12th day of June 1996.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 23 day of May 1996
Masons, 30 Aylesbury Street, London EC1R 0ER. Tel: 0171-4904000. Ref: VH/J36. Solicitors for the above-named Company.

No 001983 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF SATAKE UK LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) Companies Court dated 8th May 1996 confirming the reduction of the Share Capital of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 14th May 1996.
DATED this 16th day of May 1996
Hammond Suddards Solicitors, Trinity Court, 16 John Dalton Street, Manchester M60 8HS. Tel: 0161 830 5000, Fax: 0161 830 5001. Ref: SAR.

NICO CONSTRUCTION (EUROPE) LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of creditors of Nico Construction (Europe) Limited will be held at Price Waterhouse, 10-18 Union Street, London SE1 1SZ Room 302/303 on 7 June 1996 at 12 noon under the provisions of Section 23 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of the meeting is to consider the administrators' proposals and if creditors wish to do so, to appoint a committee of creditors.
IMPORTANT: To be able to vote at this meeting, creditors must have submitted details of their claim and, if being represented by proxy, have completed and returned the enclosed form of proxy.
You should send details of your claim and your completed proxy, if appropriate, to Mark Johnstone at 100 Drayton Park, London N5 1ND, to arrive not later than 12 noon on the business day before the meeting.
Creditors who require further advice should contact Mark Johnstone on 0171 704 1616.
PN Spratt, Administrator
16 May 1996

AC CARS LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of the creditors of AC Cars Limited is to be held at No.1 London Bridge on 5 June 1996 at 10.10am under the provisions of section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the report of the receivers and if the creditors wish to do so, to appoint a creditors' committee.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
JA DAVIS
for MD Gercke, Joint Administrative Receiver

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Urosevic Foundation
Scheme for the amendment of a previous Scheme
Reference: GA-1000047/7512-CD(Ldn)
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 7 Bonchurch Road, London W10 5SD, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

Nelcraft Cable Services Limited Registered Number: 2495184. Trading Name: Nelcraft Cable Services Limited. Nature of Business: Groundworks and cable installation. Trade classification: 27. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): 10 May 1996. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver(s): David Rubie & Co. Names of persons appointed: Alan R Price & David Nisbet, Hobson House, 155 Gower Street, London WC1E 6BJ (Office Holder No. 006846 & 006448). Joint Administrative Receivers.

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Annual General Meeting of the Sea Cadet Association will be held at Sea Cadet Headquarters, 202 Lambeth Road, London SE1 7JF, at 12 noon on Tuesday 25th June 1996.
By order of the Trustees

THE BRITISH LEBANESE ASSOCIATION
The Annual General Meeting of the British Lebanese Associations Ltd will be held on Wednesday 19th June, 1996 beginning at 10.00 am, at 11 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9PA.

ARCHER formerly PENFOLD nee HOOPER, IVY ALICE ARCHER formerly IVY PENFOLD nee HOOPER WIDOW late of Tooting, Bec, London SW17 died at Lambeth, London SE1 on 17 August 1993 (Estate about £10,000)
AUSTIN nee COATES, GLADYS WINIFRED AUSTIN nee COATES WIDOW late of Willesden, London NW10 died there on 13 May 1995 (Estate about £5,100)
BARRY, WALTER FAIRBAIRN GERALD BARRY otherwise WALTER BARRY late of Islington, London EC1 died at Camden, London WC1 on 17 October 1995 (Estate about £30,000)
GRAY, MATTHEW TIPPEN GRAY otherwise MATTHEW GRAY late of Newcastle Upon Tyne died there on 8 February 1994 (Estate about £46,000)
HAMMOND, ROSINA FLORENCE MAY HAMMOND otherwise ROASANNA HAMMOND SPINSTER late of Epsom, Surrey died there on 28 February 1993 (Estate about £13,000)
HAMPTON, LEONARD HAMPTON late of Townhill Park, Southampton died there on 11 April 1993 (Estate about £5,500)
HILL, MELVIN ROWLAND HILL late of Clapham, London SW4 died there on 25 January 1994 (Estate about £30,000)
KOSZALKA, FRANCISZEK KOSZALKA otherwise FRANCISZEK KOSZALKA otherwise FRANK KOSZALKA late of Cambridge, Cambridgeshire died there on 10 November 1994 (Estate about £6,100)
MATTHEWMAN, ALBERT EDWARD MATTHEWMAN otherwise ALBERT MATTHEWMAN late of Leeds, West Yorkshire died there on 31 July 1991 (Estate about £7,000)
TAYLOR nee SANDY, GLADYS TAYLOR nee SANDY WIDOW late of Portsmouth, Hampshire died there on 10 July 1995 (Estate about £20,000)
TELFER, ELSIE MAY TELFER SPINSTER late of Kingswinford, West Midlands died there on 7 February 1988 (Estate about £7,000)
WATERS otherwise STATON, HENRY WATERS otherwise HENRY STATON late of Peterborough died there on 16 April 1995 (Estate about £25,000)
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

مكنز الاسلام

مكذا من الاهل

■ FILM 1

Fresh from winning the top prize at Cannes, Mike Leigh's tender new *Secrets & Lies* hits Britain

■ FILM 2

. . . while the only fear expressed in the Richard Gere thriller *Primal Fear* is the fear of being original

THE TIMES ARTS

■ FILM 3

A brisk whisk through 30 years of a stormy French marriage in Régis Wargnier's *Une Femme Francaise*

■ FILM 4

. . . and *Angus* is the Hollywood teen movie with at least a bit of brain, even though nothing exciting happens

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** is touched by the gentler side of Mike Leigh in the Palme d'Or-winning *Secrets & Lies*

Life is sweet when it's not naked

Secrets & Lies
Lumière, 15, 140 mins
Mike Leigh's Cannes triumph

Primal Fear
Empire, 18, 130 mins
Superficial thrills with Richard Gere

Une Femme Francaise
Curzon Mayfair, 18, 98 mins
Thirty years of love and French history

Angus
Plaza, 12, 90 mins
Well-meaning but tame teen movie

Muppet Treasure Island
Warner West End, U, 102 mins
Muppets invade Stevenson's classic

Timothy Spall and Brenda Blethyn join in the celebrations in a scene from *Secrets & Lies*, in which Mike Leigh moves from the darkness of *Naked* into a softer light

After the bleakness of Mike Leigh's previous film, *Naked*, we were almost afraid of what would follow. Another sour epic of urban misery, of people kicked, punched and abused? In fact, Leigh has pulled back from the brink. Indeed, **Secrets & Lies**, which won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival on Monday night, takes an almost tender look at life.

His characters may scowl, bicker or retreat into silence, but at the end they rejoin the human race. They cry and hug, acknowledging the secrets and lies kept hidden for so long. Principal among them is Cynthia, the role that won Brenda Blethyn the Best Actress award at Cannes. This nervous suburban drudge who fends off her loneliness by calling everyone "darling" or "sweetheart" works in a cardboard box factory and spends her nights bickering with a scowling daughter, Roxanne (Claire Rushbrook).

There is also Maurice, Cynthia's younger brother (Timothy Spall), a modestly flourishing photographer who has climbed a few rungs on the social ladder and not kept in touch. And then there is Marianne Jean-Baptiste's Hortense, the pleasant black optometrist adopted at birth, who feels the need to trace her natural mother. To everyone's surprise, the trail leads to Cynthia.

Class divisions and claustrophobic London lives are Leigh's speciality, and have been for 25 years. Only the tone of his treatment shifts, and *Secrets & Lies*, uneasily at times, changes its mood from scene to scene. Comic caricatures erupt suddenly, at some cost to the dramatic flow: the worst offender is the former owner of Spall's business, who staggers into view for a pointless scene that only delays the film's climactic moment, Roxanne's 21st birthday party. Leigh should have got out the scissors.

Compared to the visually striking *Naked*, *Secrets & Lies* looks unusually plain. Dick Pope's camera sticks close to the characters' faces and sometimes stays still for minutes on end as they battle to find the words and gestures to express, or hide, their feelings. Here again, the scissors could be applied with benefit. Take the first key encounter between Hortense and Cynthia, at a café near Holborn Tube station. With prolonged exposure, Blethyn's performance, pitched close to caricature, grows irritating, while with Hortense audiences are largely fighting in the dark. Who is this character? Who are the people who brought her up? What are her motives? Leigh seems curiously uninterested, and her search for her birth mother loses some emotional resonance as a result.

But enough strong scenes surround the dead spots to make *Secrets & Lies* a significant achievement. Leigh is a master at choreographing scenes of social embarrassment, and he can do so now with a humane touch he never allowed himself before. Spall's performance is particularly touching. We are used to seeing this actor pull faces and splutter, but he reins himself in, only erupting for a bald line of dialogue that protrudes like a sore thumb. "We're all in pain, why can't we share our pain?" he shrieks near the end. At its best, *Secrets & Lies* lets us share the pain subtly, with grace and humour.

The title **Primal Fear** has no particular bearing on the thriller to which it is attached: it just sounds impressive. Actually, the only fear in evidence is the film-makers' fear of being original. The script, from a novel by William Diehl, piles up the clichés and tortuous twists in a nervous bid to stop us yawning. We start off with a grisly murder. An archbishop in Chicago dies from 78 stab wounds, and an altar boy who pleads innocence while spattered with blood is arrested.

The case is perfect for defence attorney Richard Gere, who thrives on controversy. He also likes peering over his reading glasses, and keeping his silvery hair well-groomed. So in he pitches, digging up enough material about sex abuse, political corruption and personality disorders to keep Perry Mason busy for years. His hands are also occupied fighting a grudge match with the prosecuting attorney, who happens to be his former lover (a thankless part quite well played by Laura Linney, last seen lost in the jungle of *Congo*).

Gere coasts through his own role on auto-pilot. He looks good, he looks cocky, and that is that. Any serious acting is left to young Edward Norton, a stage talent making a strong debut as the altar boy from Kentucky with plenty of slow rural charm. The film also marks the cinema debut of director Gregory Hoblit, a cop show specialist from television, where his credits include *NYPD Blue*. From such a background you expect jagged, hyper-realistic images; in fact, the movie looks boringly tidy, and smothered in gloss.

Nor are there sharp edges to **Une Femme Francaise**, a brisk whisk through 30 years of a stormy French marriage. Our companions are Emmanuelle Béart, wayward wife of an army officer, and Daniel Auteuil, whose continual absences in theatres of war leave plenty of time for Béart to stray. The structure and title suggests some parallel between these marital excursions and France's foreign fortunes in the Second World War and beyond. But Régis Wargnier, the director and co-writer, takes far too shallow an approach for his film to work as a report on the state of the nation.

This is a film of comings and goings, of brief, hectic sex, and border hoppings. As the clock ticks from 1939 on, we spin about from France to Germany to Vietnam to Algeria. The film's itinerary is so crowded that Wargnier must keep hurrying forward; unlike his previous romantic epic, *Indochine*, there is no time for audiences to wallow in scenery or emotions.

High school misfits need not necessarily take the violent path chosen in *Carrie*. Look at **Angus**. The hero, a large lumpish boy played by newcomer Charlie Talbert, is good at science, fair at sport, and bad at social interaction. At school he suffers constant taunts, and finds his underpants pinned to a flagpole: even his gawky best friend notes that they are almost as big as the flag. Still, his family cherish him, being large themselves; his mother is Kathy Bates, his grandfather George C. Scott.

For all the bullying, Angus does not cave in, and we leave the film carrying a clear message: forget pigeon-holes, embrace diversity, and be true to ourselves. Good sentiments all, and *Angus* should be welcomed as a Hollywood teen movie with at least a bit of brain. But nothing very exciting happens, and it is not particularly funny.

Muppet Treasure Island, filmed by Brian Henson at Shepperton Studios, has no message to preach: all it wants to do is shove Kermit, Miss Piggy and the rest into Stevenson's story and let them cavort their heads off. Adults on hand include Tim Curry (Long John Silver), Jennifer Saunders and Billy Connolly. Alongside these expert muggers, Kevin Bishop, a lad from *Grange Hill* on television, looks a little lost as Jim Hawkins: but the story and the Muppet routines carry the film along. A modest success.

'Leigh hits the jackpot'

SNAP VERDICT

SECRETS AND LIES

Matt Jones, 23: Mike Leigh is the closest we have to Woody Allen. His observations and characterisations are wonderfully astute. This is his best film since *Life is Sweet*.

Damian Samuels, 23: Leigh has hit the jackpot again. This is a brilliantly timed bitter-sweet comedy drama. His cast, as always, is superb. Brilliantly British.

Michelle Robertson, 22: A wonderful contrast of characters and emotions — this was a delight.

Claire Smith, 22: This had moments of genuine sensitivity and pain, but was about an hour too long.

PRIMAL FEAR

Matt: This is standard mainstream Hollywood; it tries to offer a new take on the trad courtroom formula but fails. Despite an interesting performance from Richard Gere, it is only average.

Damian: An enjoyable courtroom thriller that doesn't really spring any great surprises. Nevertheless Gere puts in a good performance as the smarmy, egocentric and arrogant lawyer.

Michelle: This lacked development and never reached its full potential, but it will satisfy the fan of suspense, twists and turns.

Claire: The film tails off into mediocrity and the twist at the end falls flat.

UNE FEMME FRANCAISE

Matt: A film surprisingly lacking in passion, considering the subject-matter. Consequently, the emotional involvement is limited in a drama that somewhat wastes its fine cast.

Damian: It amounts to significantly less than the sum of its parts. The central character is unsympathetic and the drama is not as compelling as it should be.

Michelle: This lacked credibility — dull, predictable and too long.

Claire: The film's several excursions into the realm of melodrama undermined any real feeling it might have engendered.

VISUAL ART: **Isabel Carlisle** on the revealing show dedicated to Degas the voracious collector

The hero's own heroes

Part of the fascination of an artist's collection is the window that it gives into that artist's mind. That is why *Degas as a Collector* offers such a fascinating counterpoint to *Degas: Beyond Impressionism* (with which it runs concurrently at the National Gallery).

Conforming to the haut-bourgeois habits of his time, Degas collected art and, as with other French collectors, it was mainly 19th-century French art. With Degas, however, the collecting developed into a passion that consumed the earnings derived from selling his own works and alarmed his friends with its prodigality. Often the dealers who sold Degas' paintings would also buy works for his collection — one that must rank alongside Rubens's for its scale and quality.

Degas had an unerring ability to pick out what Roger Fry called "the fundamental qualities of the painters at their purest and highest". In 1895 his major purchase was Delacroix's Romantic portrait of Baron Louis-August Schwiter which dominates the first part of this exhibition. With a series of equally imposing portraits by Ingres, this life-size work must have dominated Degas' own "museum", the floor of his apartment on rue Victor Masse that Degas devoted to major large-scale paintings, displayed on easels.

Delacroix's use of colour and movement was a major source of inspiration to Degas. Degas acquired sketches and drawings for finished paintings that allowed him to explore how he achieved his effects and even replicate them: *Sunset*, a little Delacroix study in coloured chalks of a sky streaked with yellow, blue and red, prefigures Degas' use of coloured pastels in the 1890s.

While in his twenties, Degas had visited Ingres in his studio. Ingres had advised him that "drawing is not outside the line but within it", and Degas took this to heart: in his late works we see him pushing the possibilities of line, as well as Delacroix's colour and movement, to the limits. By the end, Degas had bought 88 of Ingres's drawings and 20 of his paintings.

Degas, the great experimenter who moved beyond Impressionism towards modernism, was firmly rooted in the classical tradition that centred on the human figure, particularly the nude. It is not surprising then that from among his contemporaries he bought more works by the like-minded Cézanne, Manet and Gauguin than by the Impressionists.

Manet's great work *The Execution of Maximilian*, cut up after his death to be sold in pieces, was painstakingly but only partially reassembled by Degas. With the figure of the Emperor lost, the central image is the backs of the firing squad. Informally grouped, shoulders hunched in the act of firing, they are performing a task in the same way that Degas' ballerinas go through their exercises at the bar.

Gauguin's *Woman with a Mango* has the vivid colour contrasts — here indigo against a rich yellow — that we see intensified in Degas' late pastels.

Until the early years of this century Degas considered presenting the more than 500 paintings and drawings and about 5,000 prints in his collection to the State, but he never pursued this further, nor is it clear whether the proposed museum would have included Degas' own work.

The paintings with which he had furnished his life and which must have acted as a confirmation for his art were all sold at the series of auctions after his death in 1917. The National Gallery acquired 13, which are the kernel of this show. Taken as a whole, they combine the traditional and the radically avant-garde, terms which equally well describe Degas himself.

● *Degas as a Collector, sponsored by Glaxo Wellcome, continues until August 26 in the Sunley Room of the National Gallery (0171-839 3321)*

DEGAS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY — DAY TWO

Richard Cork discusses highlights of the exhibition

Unlike most of Degas' other ballet pictures, this unusually large painting contains only one dancer. She stands alone on stage, savouring her audience's enthusiasm. The bouquets presented to her have been laid aside, enabling her to concentrate on the faces beyond the footlights. Her right arm points upwards, both receiving the applause and returning it to her devotees.

But everything about the brushwork in this painting emphasises the brevity of the moment it depicts. The dancer's left arm lacks substance, and the white paper enclosing the bouquets could hardly be more flimsy. Dancer and flowers appear scarcely more solid than the stage scenery behind them, where Degas produces a surprisingly panoramic illusion of a lake. Stretching away to a cold blue mountain on the horizon, this is the most romantic of all his backdrops. The dancer seems about to merge with her surroundings, especially where the petals in her hair become indistinguishable from the flowers on the bank beyond. Darkness is spreading across the landscape, as if to herald the fact that Degas would never again include such elaborate scenery in his ballet pictures. Perhaps that is why the painting looks so elegiac, the work of an artist who is about to cast aside his love of theatrical detail and focus on the dancers alone.

Dancer with bouquets, c.1890-95. Chrysler Museum of Art, Virginia

● Degas: Beyond Impressionism *is at the National Gallery until Aug 26 (tickets from First Call, 0171-420 0000)*

● **Tomorrow, Richard Cork discusses** ***Before the ballet*** **(c. 1890-92)**

WINNER PALME D'OR CANNES 1996
"EXCEPTIONAL... PERFORMANCES ARE SUPERB" The Guardian
WINNER BRENDA BLETHYN BEST ACTRESS
"ENRICHING, ENGROSSING AND TRULY MAGNIFICENT... ONCE SEEN WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN" Daily Mail
"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES OF THE YEAR" The Observer
ROXANNE CAN'T HANDLE HER MOTHER
MAURICE NEVER SPEAKS TO HIS NIECE
CYNTHIA HAS A SHOCK FOR HER FAMILY
MONICA CAN'T TALK TO HER HUSBAND
HORTENSE HAS NEVER MET HER MOTHER
a MIKE LEIGH film
SECRETS & LIES
TIMOTHY SPALL BRENDA BLETHYN PHYLLIS LOGAN MARIANNE JEAN-BAPTISTE CLAIRE RUSHBROOK
STARTS TOMORROW
Lumière
MGM FULHAM RD.
ODEON
ODEON
UCI
Barbican
UCI LEE VALLEY
UCI BRACKNELL
UCI HATFIELD
EDINBURGH MGM & UCI
GLASGOW UCI & FILM THEATRE

■ CHOICE 1

Gemma Craven stars as the rootin'-tootin' Calamity Jane

VENUE: Tonight at Sadler's Wells

■ CHOICE 2

Sarah Brightman sings Gershwin, Sondheim and Lloyd Webber

VENUE: Tonight at Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 3

In Leeds, Paul Shelley takes the title role in *The Hypochondriac*

VENUE: Tonight at West Yorkshire Playhouse

■ NEW VIDEOS

Fine performances and plenty of period display in Nicholas Hytner's *The Madness of King George*

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

CALAMITY JANE: Gemma Craven plays the rootin'-tootin' tomboy with Stephen McGann as Wild Bill Hickok in Paul Kerryson's production of the musical of the film of the legend.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Ave, EC1 (0171-713 6000). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.30pm; mats *Wed, Sat 2.30pm. Until June 15.* Ⓢ

JULIUS CAESAR: Christopher Benjamin plays the colossus, with John Nettles and Julian Glover (Brutus and Cassius) snapping at his heels in Peter Hall's production from last year's Stratford season.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). *Opens tonight, 7pm. Then in rep with The Taming of the Shrew.* Ⓢ

OTTOMAN ART: The Brunei Gallery's first significant exhibition is an *exploration of the influence exercised* by the sultans over every aspect of life, from military power to religious devotion. Arranged in four sections, this fascinating exhibition comprises 200 works *including* calligraphy, Qur'ans, manuscripts, metalwork, ceramics, textiles and scientific instruments, from the Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art.
Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, *Thornhaugh Street,* Russell Square, WC1 (0171-637 2388). Mon-Sat 10.30am-5pm. Until August 31.

ELSEWHERE

GLASGOW: Gershwin, Sondheim and Lloyd Webber are just a few of the composers featured in this evening's *dazzling array of songs from Sarah* **Brightman,** who is accompanied by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra.
Royal Concert Hall, Sauchiehall Street, G2 (0141-353 4134). Tonight, 8pm Ⓢ

LEEDS: Paul Shelley in the title role of Molière's **The Hypochondriac,** subtitled *Sick in the Head* in Edward Kemp's new version, directed by Toby Jones.
Courtyard, *West Yorkshire Playhouse,* Quarry Hill (0113-244 2111). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm. Opens May 29, *7.45pm.* Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm; mats Wed (June 5, 12) 2pm, Sat (June 8) *3pm. Until June 22.*

SHEFFIELD: A highlight of the Danceworks festival is a performance by Ultima Vez of *What the Body Does Not Remember.* This innovative work is a brutal confrontation of dance and music by the Belgian choreographer **Wim Vandekeybus** and the composers *Thierry de Mey and Peter Vermeersch.*
Crucible, Norfolk Street, S1 (0114-276 9922). *Tonight, 8pm.* Ⓢ

SOUTHAMPTON: The classic farce ***Charley's Aunt,*** by *Brandon Thomas,* opens here today. In 1882, Charles and Jack invite their girlfriends to Oxford, together with Charley's mysterious and elusive aunt as chaperone. What follows is a whirlwind of madcap misunderstanding and mischief.
Nuffield, University Road (01703 671 771). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, *7.30pm (except May 28, 7pm),* Fri and Sat, 8pm; mat Sat (May 25, June 8) 4pm, (Jun 1 and 15, 2.30pm). Until June 15. Ⓢ

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Derek Jarman: Artist, Film-Maker, Designer (0171-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Kayama Matazo *(0171-636 1555)* . . . **Courtauld:** Drawings by Thomas Gainsborough (0171-873 2526) . . . **Llewellyn Alexander:** Godfrey Tonks (0171-620 1322) . . . **Mall Galleries:** Royal Society *of Portrait Painters (0171-930 6844)* . . . **National Gallery:** Degas: Beyond Impressionism; Degas as a Collector (0171-747 2885) . . . **Royal Academy:** Gustave Caillebotte (0171-439 7438) . . . ***Tate:*** *New Displays* (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A:** William Morris; The Leighton Frescoes (0171-938 8500) . . . **Whitechapel:** Renato Guttuso (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **BEAST ON THE MOON:** Richard Kalinoski's award-winning play about two survivors of the 1915 Armenian massacres settled in Milwaukee. *Directed by Irena Brook.*
BAC, 176 Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tue-Sat 8pm; Sun 6pm. Until June 2.

◪ **THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED):** The RSC's (Reduced Shakespeare Company) popular, potty rough-handling of the Bard.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1737). Wed-Sat, 8pm. Mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm and Sun, 4pm. Ⓢ

◪ **ENDGAME:** Riveting performances by Alun Armstrong and Stephen Dillane, in Katie Mitchell's production of middle-period Beckett. Last week.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm. Ⓢ

◪ **A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC:** Elegant and successful production by Sean Mathias of Sondheim's Swedish charmer. Judi Dench, Patricia Hodge, Siân Phillips and Lambert Wilson among the stars shining in the night.
National *(Olivier),* South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.15pm; mats Sat and Wed, 2pm. In rep. Ⓢ

◪ **NUREMBERG:** Edited from the transcripts of the Nazi War Crimes Trial Nicolas Kent's production is preceded by *Responses,* playlets set in Haiti, *Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia.*
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). *Mon-Thurs 8pm,* Fri 7.30pm and 9.15pm, Sat 6.30pm, 8pm; mats Wed 2pm, Sat 4pm. Until June 8.

◪ **SYLVIA:** Strange, romantic comedy by A.R. Gurney, with Robin Ellis as a Wall Street trader, Maria Aitken as his wife and Zoë Wanamaker, as the stray dog (Sylvia) *he finds in Central Park.* Michael Blakemore directs.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Opens May 20, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri 8pm; mat Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm and *8.15pm.*

◪ **TAP DOGS:** Dein Perry's sextet of dancers in working-boots returns to its building-site set. High energy stuff.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm.

◪ **TARTUFFE:** Ian McDiarmid and Tom Hollander marvellously funny, and creepy, in Jonathan Kent's top-class production of Molière's tart comedy on religious follies.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat 8pm; mat Sat 4pm. Until June 15. Ⓢ

☐ **TWELVE ANGRY MEN:** Kevin Whately, Timothy West, Peter Vaughan and nine excellent others in Reginald *Rose's justly celebrated jury-room* drama.
Comedy, Panton Street SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat 4pm.

☐ **WHAT NOW, LITTLE MAN?:** Hans Fallada's chronicle of a simple family struggling in Berlin just before Hitler's take-over. Interesting but short of *excitement.*
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat 7.45pm; mat Sat 2.30pm. Until June 22.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . ◪ **Buddy:** Strand (0171-930 8800) . . . ◪ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) . . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (0171-494 5070) ☐ **Fame: The Musical:** Cambridge (0171-494 5083) . . ◪ **Grease:** Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . . ☐ **The Mousetrap:** *St Martin's (0171-836 1443)* . . . ◪ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . . ☐ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

BLUE IN THE FACE (15): Stories and *jokes about Brooklyn life. Indulgent* companion piece to *Smoke,* with Harvey Keitel, Roseanne, and many cameos. Director, Wayne Wang.
Plaza Ⓢ (0171-437 1234) **Renoir** *(0171-837 8402)* **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **KIDS** (18): Unedifying portrait of kids running wild in Manhattan. A first feature by still-photographer Larry Clark; the cast is non-professional.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) ***Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen on the*** **Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **MONEY TRAIN** (18): Nasty antics in *New York's subway system, with Wesley* Snipes and Woody Harrelson. Director, Joseph Ruben.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

ROUGH MAGIC (12): Magician's assistant Bridget Fonda finds true magic in Mexico. Engaging oddity from *director Clare Peploe.* With Russell Crowe.
Odeons: Haymarket (01426-915 353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

CURRENT

◆ ***BARB WIRE*** (15): *Dull trash,* with Baywatch star Pamela Anderson Lee kicking ass in a futuristic wasteland. Director, David Hogan.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

◆ ***THE BIRDCAGE (15): Crass, gaudy*** remake of *La Cage aux Folles,* with Robin Williams and Nathan Lane as the gay couple faced with an in-law problem. Director, Mike Nichols.
Empire (0800-888 911) ***MGMs: Chelsea*** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham *Road*** Ⓢ *(0171-370 2636)* ***Trocadero*** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **COPYCAT** (18): Agoraphobic Sigourney Weaver and Holly Hunter's detective battle with a serial killer. *Unpleasant thriller. Director, Jon Amiel.*
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **EXECUTIVE DECISION** (15): Good, silly fun on a hijacked airliner, with Kurt *Russell,* Halle Berry, and a consignment of nerve gas.
MGMs Fulham Road Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** *(0171-437 4343)*

◆ **HACKERS** (12): Teenage hackers uncover a corporate conspiracy. Fizzy fun from *Backbeat* director Iain Softley, *with Jonny Lee Miller and Angelina Jolie.*
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0171-437 1234)

◆ **MR HOLLAND'S OPUS** (PG): Thirty *years of a music teacher's life.* Well-meaning, sentimental piffle, with Richard Dreyfuss. Director, Stephen Herek.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** Ⓢ *(0171-370 2636)* ***Notting Hill Coronet*** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-*737 2121)* **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ *(0171-792* 3332)

◆ **IL POSTINO** (U): Michael Radford's heartwarming delight about a simple *man opening his eyes to poetry.* Wonderful performance by the late Massimo Troisi.
MGMs: Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470)

REBECCA (PG): Joan Fontaine marries Laurence Olivier but has to live with the memory of his first wife as well. Welcome revival of Hitchcock's luscious melodrama, made in 1939.
Everyman (0171-435 1525)

Out of his crowned head

NEW ON VIDEO

Queen Charlotte (Helen Mirren) tries to calm the king (Nigel Hawthorne) in *The Madness of King George*

■ **THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE**
Columbia TriStar, PG, 1994
NICHOLAS HYTNER'S film of Alan Bennett's play is now available in a widescreen edition packaged with the screenplay. Nigel Hawthorne reigns supreme as George III, racked with agonies. Hytner, the original stage director, makes the most of cinema's aptitude for period display and location shooting. Excellent support from Helen Mirren as the devoted Queen Charlotte and Ian Holm as the maverick doctor who, temporarily at least, eases the king's torment.

■ **ALTERED STATES**
Warner, 18, 1980
PSYCHEDELIC razzmatazz dominates Ken Russell's film, though the story is essentially the sci-fi staple about the scientist who explores the roots of human experience and cannot put himself together again. William Hurt makes his film debut as the human guinea-pig; not a very attractive performance, but then the character itself is unpleasant. Before viewer fatigue kicks in, Russell's visual fireworks ensure some splendidly preposterous moments.

■ **LA HAINE**
Tartan, 15, 1995
ELECTRIFYING study of disenfranchised youth from 28-year-old French director Mathieu Kassovitz, who takes his cameras to the depressing suburbs circling Paris. After a second-generation Arab youth is beaten senseless in police custody, three youths ride to town with a handgun. Not all will return safely. Kassovitz makes every minute count and keeps a tight rein on the characters. The black-and-white photography has the harshness of documentary and, occasionally, the beauty of conscious art.

■ **THE BASKETBALL DIARIES**
First Independent, 18, 1995
RISING star Leonardo DiCaprio plunges wholeheartedly into the task of portraying teenage writer-to-be Jim Carroll, prowling Manhattan in the 1960s, scoring, whoring and writing poetic thoughts in a notebook. DiCaprio avoids melodramatic tricks but never gives us quite enough reason for suffering along with him. The role was originally meant for River Phoenix. A first feature from director Scott Kilvert. Available to rent.

■ **SISTER MY SISTER**
Arrow, 15, 1994
WATCHABLE film version of Wendy Kesselman's play about two French provincial maids in the 1930s driven to murder (the real-life case also inspired Jean Genet's *The Maids*). Joely Richardson and Jodhi May are the repressed girls and Julie Walters the house dragon. Nancy Meckler, who directed the London stage show, shows no overwhelming flair for cinema but makes the most of tiny details: ominous looks, dripping taps, specks of dust on the stair bannister.

GEOFF BROWN

NEW CLASSICAL CDS: Lucid fugues; echoes of French operetta; striking sparks from Sibelius

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ **BACH/NANCARROW**
Art of Fugue/Canons, etc
Joanna MacGregor
Collins Classics 70432★★★
AN 18th-century court musician and a Spanish Civil War veteran from Arkansas meet in the shared philosophy of fugue and canon in this latest disc from pianist Joanna MacGregor. Her concise verbal notes provide a lucid commentary through her gently thoughtful, at times impishly idiosyncratic performance of Bach's great *Art of Fugue.*

That is on the first CD. On the second, of this double album, come the *Three Canons for Ursula* which uncover the complex metrical relationships invented by former jazz trumpeter and composer Conlon Nancarrow. Every "voice" speaks with mischievous clarity in the tricksy Canon B, considered unplayable until Thomas Ades had a go at it during last summer's Almeida Festival. MacGregor uses modern multitracking techniques to realise her beloved *Studies for Player Piano* (numbers 3c, 6 and 11 of Nancarrow's series are included here). The multilayered, quirky jazziness of their making predated computer technology and sounds, some might think, a lot more fun.

OPERETTA

John Higgins

■ **MASSE**
Les Noces de Jeanette
PLANQUETTE
Rip
VARNEY
Les Mousquetaires au convent
Highlights
Berton/Dens/various orchestras/conductors
EMI 5 68894 2
(2 CDs, mono)★★
FRENCH operetta did not judder to a halt on the death of Offenbach. It just lost its bite. Robert Planquette's *Rip* was written for London but had far greater success when reworked for Paris. The tunes pour out and among them are two notable numbers for the baritone in the title part: the Echo Song in Act II, with its shepherd's pipe accompaniment, and Rip's final hymn to youth. Michel Dens takes them in fine sentimental style.

Louis Varney was the son of Offenbach's conductor at the Bouffes-Parisiens and he had no compunction about pilfering from the master. Brissac, the musketeer dressed as a Capuchin to gain access to the convent and its girls, has a drunken arietta which is an almost complete lift of the Tipsy Song from *Pericholé.* Dens again takes it with great aplomb. The plot may resemble Rossini's *Comte Ory* but the music is pure Offenbach.

The earliest of the three operettas on the disc, excellently remastered from recordings made in the 1950s, is Victor Massé's *Les Noces de Jeannette* (1853). It also has the most durable number, the Nightingale Song, which is well worth the attention of some of our present-day coloraturas. Liliane Berton, Dens's regular partner, shows just what pleased the petit bourgeoisie of yesteryear.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **SIBELIUS**
Violin Concerto; Karelia Suite/ *Belshazzar's Feast* Suite
Kuusisto/Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra/ Segerstam
Ondine ODE 878-2★★★

Violin Concerto; Serenades 1 & 2; Humoresque No 1
Mutter/Staatskapelle Dresden/Previn
DG 447 895-2★★★

THE 20-year-old Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto won first prize in the 1995 Sibelius Violin Competition, with an outstanding performance of the D Minor Concerto winning him a special award. He is indeed a phenomenon: not simply in terms of technical wizardry but also in the maturity of insight he shows in his account of the work. His opening solo (marked *"dolce ed espressivo"*) is as gentle and expressive as any I have heard, and his security of intonation, stylishly nuanced rhythmic control and natural feel for the idiom make this a commanding performance.

Anne-Sophie Mutter's immensely powerful conception is very different. Her glacial opening solo leads to a reading that is characteristically opulent and robust in tone. Her articulation is savagely incisive, with a particularly ferocious coda to the first movement. Previn's dark, tension-sprung accompaniment is ideal for the task.

A third new recording, by Vadim Repin on Erato, should not be overlooked, but my choice would be between Kuusisto's youthful spontaneity and Mutter's mastery.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

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■ VISUAL ART

Thanks to the National Lottery, it's full steam ahead for expansion at the Serpentine Gallery

■ THEATRE

Taking the name of honour in vain: the RSC's staging of Calderón's difficult *The Painter of Dishonour*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ RADIO

Why do listeners have to work so hard when listening to BBC radio documentaries?

■ TOMORROW

The actor, author and gangsta rapper Ice T makes the case for musical credibility with his latest album

RADIO

Time to name names

FOUR days after last week's column appeared, containing a rebuke for critics of Paul Gambaccini, I was back at the word processor trying to explain for Tuesday's news pages why Gambaccini had been dumped by Radio 3. I am now fielding telephone calls from other BBC presenters begging me not to say a good word about them.

So I won't, for the time being. So the safest territory this week is **The Country Life** (Radio 2, Wednesday), a new series in which it is impossible to praise or criticise anyone because all of those who appear are anonymous.

Nothing daunted, I shall have a go at the producer, who is Keith Slade. He will survive me saying that this is a fascinating series, but the question is, why do listeners have to work so hard when listening to BBC radio documentaries? *The Country Life* is in four parts and this first one mainly concerned work and the effect of the seasons on it.

All the speakers are real people, but we do not learn who they are, we do not even learn when it was that they had the experience described. Unless we have studied dialects, we do not even know where most of them live.

This trend towards anonymous contributors in both radio and television is part of the obsession with "voices". The more, the better. The fewer interruptions, the better. The less narration, the better.

For example, Wednesday's first programme had what all good documentaries have: a single, startling fact that you are never likely to forget. In this case it was that a man pushing a plough was expected to cover an acre a day, and in doing so he walked 11 miles.

Eleven miles? In a day? Pushing a plough? No more flesh was to be put on this superman — we did not discover when he did it or where he did it or how often he did it. The fact that he did was thrust into our minds in a single dimension, which was at least one short of enough.

The Country Life is a highly enlightening series, but I wish I knew the names of its heroes and heroines. There, Slade can sleep soundly tonight. Oh and sorry Paul.

PETER BARNARD

London's Serpentine Gallery has big plans for its lottery handout. **Simon Tait** reports

How to get a quart into a pint pot: the renovations of the Serpentine Gallery will double the available space, without increasing its size one inch

The teahouse gets the cream

There is something very British about creating one of the nation's premier contemporary art galleries out of a tea pavilion in the middle of a park: and not a particularly distinguished tea pavilion, either. It has almost all the characteristics associated with tea rooms: unexpected draughts, biting cold in the winter, echoing floors, low ceilings, uncertain and changing glimmerings through skylights. Still, there are pleasant views of rolling lawns beyond the portico columns and the light is uninterrupted by any surrounding buildings.

And it is the light that has made the Serpentine Gallery in Kensington Gardens a showcase for new work, an achievement recognised by the grant of £3 million from the Arts Lottery Fund to renovate and improve it.

The scheme will double the space in the gallery — 805 square metres becoming 1,462 — without increasing its size. The architects, John Miller and Partners, have come up with a design that will create an education centre, a workshop, storage space, a large new bookshop and new entrance, more office space, new toilets and proper wheelchair access. Exhibition space will be slightly increased, and the entrance switched from the south to the north side. The lawns are to be landscaped by Hal Moggeridge to become sculpture gardens.

"It's taken us five years to get to this point," says Julia Peyton-Jones, the gallery's director. "This has given us time to consider properly what we need to do. It's meant we have become much more aware of the movement in the space and how we can make it much more flexible for both artists and audiences."

"There are exceptions, but in general art looks better at the Serpentine than anywhere else," says the writer and critic David Sylvester. "The renovations will make it better still by keeping rain and burglars out."

The Arts Council got a lease on the pavilion, which was built in 1934, in 1970, intending it to be the little sister to the Hayward Gallery, on the South Bank. The Serpentine is no longer a junior partner. Since 1991 visitors have gone from 180,000 to 368,000 last year, compared with the Hayward's 230,000.

Its recent exhibitions have been consistently newsworthy, from Helen Chadwick's provocative *Effluvia* and Rebecca Horn in 1994, to last year's Mark Wallinger, Man Ray and *The Maybe* of Tilda Swinton and Cornelia Parker, to the Jean-Michel Basquiat retrospective this spring.

"There's been a change in the way the visual arts are perceived," Peyton-Jones says. "The latest exhibition is written and talked about as much as the latest film."

An educational charity, the Serpentine has always offered free admission. But, although subsidised by the Arts Council and Westminster Council, it still has to raise two-thirds of its £900,000 a year income, much of it from sponsorship.

In 1987 there was a clamorous appeal to save the gallery when the Arts Council decided to release it from direct control. The threat of closure loomed again as a result of the increasing deterioration of the building. The roof leaks, the heating system does not work properly, increasing numbers of owners have been refusing to lend their works for exhibition, the security system is inadequate, and the wiring is potentially dangerous.

So, long before the National Lottery was anywhere near the statute book, an appeal was launched, with the Princess of Wales as patron. The annual patron-hosted gala dinners became one of the social events of the summer season and, along with the *Here and Now* exhibitions which reviewed the art of the Serpentine's life so far, they raised £250,000 of the £1 million the gallery needed to partner the lottery funding.

The gallery will close in September for a year, to allow the renovations to be completed. "Then people will come and see we're in good shape, and that we give good value for money," Peyton-Jones says. "The challenge now is to get the business community as well as the public to support the art of today."

For all the work, though, the gallery will still lack one thing: not enough space could be found for a tea room.

CHAMBER RECITALS

A notable vote for democracy

Leipzig Quartet
Wigmore Hall

TWO of them left the platform by one door and two by the other, finding each other backstage just in time to return for the applause. It was clearly the Leipzig Quartet's first date at the Wigmore Hall, and a nice visual emblem of this most democratic of quartets.

Their playing is exceptionally close-knit: the leader, Andres Seidel, seems almost embarrassed by his title. In Mozart's D minor Quartet (K421), the first movement became a dense mesh of melodic strands, lively with inner voices; and the finale's four variations found four equally distinctive characters to shape them. Only in certain harmonically defining entries, and in the keening theme of the last movement, did we momentarily miss a more dominant leading voice.

Erstwhile principals of the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the players have been together for ten years, but are not yet loudly projected by a big-label record company. We were reminded, though, of their fine continuing series of Schubert discs in their performance of the composer's *Quartettsatz*. The compacted intensity of this single movement of an unfinished quartet rang out of the players' rapid, tremulous crescendo, only temporarily relaxed in the subtle shifts of harmony and tempo.

Joy Farrall joined the quartet for Brahms's Clarinet Quintet. Her gentle, warmly co-operative playing is ideally suited to the quartet's own intimate musicianship. In the first movement, the most fluid interplay of motif and figuration co-existed with rigorous rhythmic precision. Even in the second movement's song, Farrall was a reluctant prime mover, preferring to pipe her colleagues in to converse together before leading them, like a will o' the wisp, through the graceful dance steps of the Scherzo and on to end, wistfully, where they had all begun.

HILARY FINCH

French with tone

Nash Ensemble
Queen Elizabeth Hall

JUST as whole generations of composers — including Boulez and Stockhausen — owed their inspiration to Messiaen, so the formative influence on Messiaen and his contemporaries was Debussy. And if the work of Messiaen that most explicitly breaks with Western notions of time is his *Quatuor pour la fin du temps*, then it was clever of the Nash Ensemble (and its artistic consultant Amelia Freedman) to place it at the other end of their programme from Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*.

In Debussy's tone poem, time is suspended in the haze of the afternoon sun. The work inevitably sounded less sensuous in David Walter's chamber transcription than in the original, but there was compensation in the refined and revealingly lucid textures: a solo oboe here, a ripple of harp there, and Philippa Davies's languid flute.

As Roger Nichols's programme note for Messiaen's Quartet pointed out, he had a better chance than most to contemplate infinity during its gestation — being an inmate of a German prisoner-of-war camp at the time. The angel "who announces the end of time" in the second movement ushers in hovering lines on violin and cello (James Clark and Christopher van Kampen), over the most delicate droplets of sound (Ian Brown on the piano). But the most remarkable technical control was shown by the clarinettist Michael Collins, with his barely audible threads of sound in "*Abîme des oiseaux*".

For the bright, hard sonorities of Messiaen's *Oiseaux exotiques*, Yvonne Loriod brought her unparalleled authority to bear, with Daniel Harding and the ensemble providing a suitably rhythmic backdrop. In Maurice Delage's *Quatre poèmes hindous*, soprano Catherine Dubosc's tone could have been a touch more sultry, but her command of the idiom was admirable, both here and in Ravel's *Trois poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé*.

BARRY MILLINGTON

An honour system best left to history

THEATRE

The Painter of Dishonour
Barbican Pit

MARILYN KINGWILL

Victims of respect: Sara Mair-Thomas and John Carlisle

Not all plays by Calderón are centrally concerned with honour, but revivals of those that are present a problem. Take this one, first seen last year at Stratford, directed by Laurence Boswell, and revived here on a sprung floor — excellent for stamping heels — with sumptuous costumes and a cast that is mainly good.

The young woman who believes her love is drowned, and marries the elderly painter of the title, scrupulously ensures that she only acts in accordance with her honour. This means pretending she was not attracted to her former suitor when she was, and afterwards remaining faithful to her husband. The second is entirely proper, but the first fatally delays her happiness and is the prime cause of everything that goes wrong thereafter.

The drowned man bounces up again and proves to be an intolerable cad, quite the most unsympathetic character to have been seen at the RSC in years. He will not accept that his Serafina is now a married woman, hurls abuse at her, pursues her from Naples to Barcelona for more abuse and ends by abducting her. This exposes the painter to titters from the populace and he pursues the couple back across the Mediterranean for the inevitable revenge. The abductor happens to be his best friend's son — "Damn honour and its tyranny!" he exclaims — but when the deed is done, the dead man's dad declares that "revenge taken in honour's name cannot offend".

And this is the problem for me. Revenge I can empathise with, no sweat. But all the blather about honour's demands, and there are many more examples in this play, is the froth of a vanished society more concerned with surface than substance. The programme suggests that Calderón was urging an end to its more sinister and fatuous manifestations, but this means the experience of watching his play today is like being presented with an exhaustively detailed account of cannibalism and then being told it is a bad thing. I know that. Why tell me?

Books have been written about this play, but the translation, by Boswell and David Johnston, uses such plain and ordinary language that we cannot be made to care for the characters by any marvellous way they say things. John Carlisle (Don Juan, the painter) makes us believe he is speaking poetry only because his voice gives a charge of thought and feeling to his lines. In a different way Sara Mair-Thomas is a convincingly passionate Serafina, for her voice trembles with the pressure of tears beneath it.

The movements throughout the play are revealing, and there is a fine air of bustle about the production, although I see that where Johnston argues for Calderón's belief that a pattern shapes our lives, Boswell goes so far as to contradict the wedding-bells end by making the bride (good playing by Sophie Heyman) stride out in silent rage.

The play gripped me in the opening act, loosened its hold in the second, and lost me in the third.

JEREMY KINGSTON

ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

You can all join in

YMSO/Edwards/ Brabbins
Festival Hall

DJANGO Bates made his Festival Hall debut on Monday in a programme in which 1950s Children's Favourites hummed along with the latest from Human Chain. Fingers were delicately placed in unsuspecting ears: baseball caps were pulled down hard over ecstatically nodding brows.

This was the Musicians Benevolent Fund enjoying its seventy-fifth birthday concert, and making the point that its work is for all sorts and conditions of musicians, young as well as old. As if to validate the point, during Shostakovich's *Festival Overture* the air was rent with infant cries, and young booted feet pounded their way through *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*. In both works the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra was conducted by Martyn Brabbins.

Early in her career, a kidney illness left Lesley Garrett without a voice. Thanks to the MBF, doctors and counsellors were able to restore it within a year. Bathed in violet light, she smooched her way through Gershwin's *Summertime* and Jerome Kern's *Long ago and far away*.

The stage was reset for the keyboards, saxophone, electric bass and drums of Django Bates's band, Human Chain. "Here's a lovely old song, sung in a horrible new way!" he cried; and there was *New York, New York* turned into a fierce cityscape cross-etched by rhythm and metre.

Enter Joanna MacGregor, tiny, silver and black. Her piano part was only intermittently audible in Bates's own *The Loneliness of Being Right*, a compact, devil-may-care frustration of a number.

After MacGregor's *Rhapsody in Blue*, tight, teasing and idiosyncratic, and conducted with spirit by Sian Edwards, there was more avian delight. For Malcolm Arnold's *Toy Symphony*, the YMSO's string octet and pianist were joined by — among others — Garrett, hitting a triangle as if it were an anvil, Bates, subdued on a toy drum, Rafael Payne (Young Musician of the Year) on cymbals, John Harle torturing a toy trumpet, and John Amis turning into a canary. They all joined in Strauss's *Radetzky March* and so, of course, did the audience.

HILARY FINCH

There's no need to shout

Bournemouth Sinf/ Moldoveanu
Bath Forum

VISITORS to the Bath Festival must have been wondering what they had done to deserve it. After a day of miserable weather, they were now being entertained by the most eccentric of Austrian composers and probably not enjoying it very much more. A German-speaking audience would have had difficulty with H. C. Artmann's words — partly because H. K. Gruber's setting for *chansonnier* and orchestra distorts them, partly because they make little sense anyway — but for a British audience they were virtually meaningless.

Zeitstimmung was commissioned by the Bournemouth Orchestras and the prospect of a first performance secured an engagement for the Bournemouth Sinfonietta at the Bath Forum, inspiring one of the most interesting programmes in the festival. Kurt Weill, unmistakably one of Gruber's musical antecedents, was represented by a rare performance of his Second Symphony; Haydn, clearly one of Weill's symphonic models, appropriately opened the concert with the *Drumroll Symphony* (No 103 in E flat).

Mozart's Horn Concerto No 2, K417, demonstrated the accomplishment of the Sinfonietta's principal hornist, Richard Berry. Under its assistant conductor, Nicolae Moldoveanu, the orchestral playing was generally attractive in sound and tolerably well-ordered in ensemble.

Gruber wrote *Zeitstimmung* for himself to perform at the microphone. Singing, speaking, shouting, whispering, hissing a vocal line covering three octaves or more, he provoked a scarcely repressible urge to ask him to shut up so that we could hear what was going on in the orchestra. He is so brilliant in orchestration, so adept in creating tunes, and so witty in purely musical terms that the *chansonnier* in him is an unnecessary distraction.

GERALD LARNER

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Peter Ackroyd on the architect of the Book of Common Prayer

He followed the King's devices and desires

Thomas Cranmer is nobody's hero. His reputation as a *trimmer to beat all trimmers* is only matched by his lugubrious role as a professional wringer of hands. The surviving portraits in that sense seem to suit him; the eyes are *timid but* obtrusive, while the whole face remains watchful, anxious and restrained. The general opinion has come to be that he *was infirm of purpose, with too quiet* a conscience, and therefore more fit for a king than for his God. But, in this voluminous and detailed account, *Diarmaid MacCulloch sets out to alter* this enduring impression by characterising him as a conscientious and able servant whose abiding purpose was "*his fierce determination* to promote the evangelical reform of the Church".

It was not always so. At university he was a *traditionalist* in every sense, and in the early period of his life he is described by MacCulloch as "a conservative don" and apparently "a thoroughly *traditional* cleric". But he was *more* interested in a career in the world than in the university, and he first comes to notice in the historical records as a supporter of the *King's decision* to separate himself from Katharine of Aragon and to marry Anne Boleyn.

In fact Cranmer's sudden involvement in *secular affairs seems to have* gone to his head; in one of the few bold moves of his life, he disavowed his clerical celibacy in order to marry the daughter of a Nuremberg brewer. But he learnt quickly enough that rashness did not necessarily pay. Only a few months later, the King decided to promote archdeacon Cranmer to the Archbishopric of Canterbury — no doubt for the sake of services still to come as for those already rendered.

So Cranmer was compelled to keep quiet about *his wife* (who seems somehow to have been spirited away in the corridors of one of his palaces), equivocated about the nature of papal *authority, and eventually took on the* pallium. A contemporary satirised him as the priest who always kept his fingers to his mouth; but *although* silence and *stealth were his two commandments, it* was clear to everyone that he was the representative in ecclesiastical gear of the Boleyns and that he was, in Diarmaid MacCulloch's words, "a tame Archbishop".

So there is no way in which MacCulloch distorts or hides any evidence relating to his subject: the *biography is notably even-handed, and* even uses a passage from T. S. Eliot's abject *Prufrock* as an epigraph — "At times, indeed, almost ridiculous." But *this is a scholarly book in every sense* and, although it is addressed essentially to other scholars who are already familiar with the history of the period, it will have an especial *significance* for those who have an interest in the wayward and confusing path of the Reformation itself.

THOMAS CRANMER
By Diarmaid MacCulloch
Yale, £29.95

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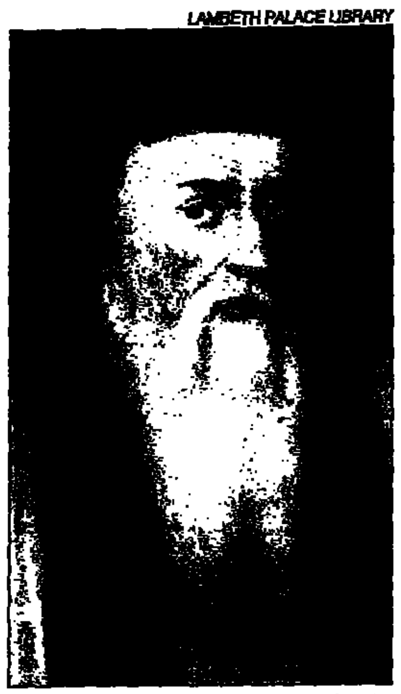

Cranmer after Henry VIII's death

MacCulloch's *history* of that giant transition in fact confirms that it was engineered very much in haste, "as a process of *ad hoc* reactions to situations *as they arose, rather than the result of* planned strategy" — to which we may add the opinion of historians like Eamon Duffy that the new religious settlement *had* to be imposed upon a bewildered and otherwise pious nation. In many respects, then, it was a Reformation behind closed doors — some of them belonging to Cranmer *himself*.

So the Archbishop remained a general factotum, eager to serve *those principalities and powers* which St Paul commanded him to abjure, and in ordinary secular affairs he became, in MacCulloch's words, "an almost powerless puppet" in the hands of Henry, or Thomas Cromwell, or whoever happened to be temporarily in charge.

He always managed to save his job at *times of crisis — until the very end, that* is — never losing his head while others were losing theirs, but only by remaining in the shadow of that "self-righteous, God-obsessed *royal bully*" who happened to be the reigning monarch. At the same time MacCulloch makes a perfectly cogent argument for Cranmer's *seriousness as a theologian and* controversialist, and there can be no doubt that he became convinced of the need to extirpate the tradition of medieval *Christendom*. Yet since his preferred alternative lay in the *religious* authority of secular rulers, it must be said that he chose his new creed wisely in the light of events. Cranmer's "premise about the divine ordering of *society through Christian princes*" was not out of place in the court of Henry VIII.

The Coronation of Edward VI (or "King Josiah", as he was known by the faithful) greatly encouraged him. He was the boy's godfather, after all, and MacCulloch suggests that it was at this moment — *when he finally crawled out* from under the rock of Henry's presence — that Cranmer was able to fashion his ecclesiastical revolution. In a process of "*ruthless thoroughness*" images were smashed, festivals and rituals abolished, opponents cowed and often imprisoned. There are times when the *ecclesiastical manoeuvring* comes close to the more melodramatic passages of Trollope, until one remembers that the Fleet, the Marshalsea or the scaffold *were often the* unhappy end of the internal bickering. In every sense, the stakes were high.

For a while Cranmer succeeded, *managing* to defeat what MacCulloch calls the traditionalist or conservative forces, and thwarted only by the unhappy accident of the young King's death. Yet there is a case for saying that the Protestant cause was in this period fatally compromised, both by its total reliance upon royal authority and by its *entire lack of interest in popular belief.* This really was a textbook example of telling people what was good for them, and there have been a number of studies *in recent years demonstrating the havoc* brought upon the ritualised piety of the English as much as upon their statues and their prayerbooks.

On the accession of *Mary*, Cranmer was tried for treason, and then actually burned for heresy. It was not an unlikely or uncommon fate, and Cranmer had been playing with fire all his life. That great populist, Cobbett, remarked that "he expired at last amidst those flames which he himself had been the chief cause of kindling".

But if he was not averse to burning heretics when the need arose, it cannot be said that he displayed as much constancy in his last days as some of his victims. He recanted once or twice and then recanted his recantation, giving further credence to the suspicion that he rarely had the courage of his convictions.

Yet if he was one of nature's timeservers, who could really deny him the right to trim and prevaricate in so dangerous an age? He was only human — *too human, perhaps, in his inability* to see beyond immediate circumstances — in a period when only saints, heroes or fanatics seemed able to act decisively. *He died gracefully, if nothing else,* although one cannot help but entertain the suspicion that he was simply trying to ingratiate himself with the next ruler *of his destiny.*

The German axe of State: illustration by Thomas Theodor Heine from the satirical magazine *Simplicissimus*, 1899

Making killing no murder

In the conversation of mankind, murder is one of the great constants. For a week or more after the *Dunblane massacre, or during* the West and Bulger trials, the nation talked of little else. Almost everybody agreed that *these murders were unique in* their various kinds of depravity, and that each of them revealed unpalatable truths about our society. In fact, our *reactions to these crimes* would tell the historian far more about Britain than the murders themselves. Criminal *pathology shows only endless* variations on themes which have changed little since Cain killed Abel; but if murder has *no history, its punishment* most certainly does.

Hence it is remarkable that this thousand-page history of execution in Germany is the first serious attempt to trace the evolution of a nation through its response to capital crime. Richard Evans makes *no secret of his personal* distaste for the death penalty, but the great strength of his book is its detail. In the *aftermath of Dunblane, it is* salutary to read of the case of Ernst Wagner, a schoolmaster who in 1913 murdered first his wife and four children, then set fire to the houses of his *village neighbours and shot* ten of them dead as they emerged. His trial revealed the same paranoid mentality *that seems to have* characterised Thomas Hamilton, but with a distinctively Wilhelmine German twist: Wagner was a eugenicist who, for all his respectability, thought himself a danger to the race because of his humble origins, *and committed* his murders partly out of a desire to prevent *the lower orders* from reproducing. He was saved from the *axe by the new* science of psychiatry, which was able to resist public opinion in an only partly democratic system. Wagner lived to welcome the Nazis *as his disciples.*

Daniel Johnson

RITUALS OF RETRIBUTION
Capital Punishment in Germany, 1600-1987
By Richard J. Evans
OUP, £55

Evans describes in gory detail the sensational serial killers of the Weimar Republic, from Fritz Haarman — the *private detective and police* informer who turned out to have dispatched about 30 boys by biting their jugular veins while buggering them — *to* Peter Kürten, the suave "*Düsseldorf Vampire*", whose case aroused such popular fury that the death penalty, which had been in abeyance for several years, was reintroduced for him in 1931.

Under the Third Reich, it was to be transformed into an instrument of *extermination*. Here again, the echoes of present-day controversies make for uncomfortable reading: Hitler himself, it appears, was a compulsive consumer of crime stories in the press; but when he came across *a sentence too* "lenient" for the crime he did not merely fulminate: a telephone call to Himmler was enough to ensure that the criminal would be *unofficially* executed.

From 1942 onwards, judges who passed custodial sentences for the ever-lengthening list of crimes that Hitler *considered capital* were simply sacked. Thus the courts became accomplices in the Nazi bloodbath, passing *16,560 death sentences in 12* years. So discredited did the death penalty become that the postwar Federal Republic abolished it, though the Communists continued to execute *criminals* in East Germany until the eve of its collapse.

As a thorough, empirical historian, Evans cannot *square his evidence* with the overarching theories of punishment advanced by Michel Foucault, Norbert Elias and others. *But he subscribes to at* least one theory himself: that capital punishment sustains and is sustained by a "culture of retribution", which degrades the State and legitimises violence at all levels of society.

Germany's nemesis under the Nazis seems to support this. But there is no evidence that the aboli*tion of capital punishment* in itself ameliorates the culture of retribution, let alone reduces criminal violence. Being "soft on crime" *may destabilise* a modern State, which is defined by its monopoly of violence; we still think of the Weimar Republic as "decadent", because the Nazi propaganda which depicted it as such was so effective. The desire for retribution may be atavistic, *but it is rarely kept* in check without ritual.

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Lucky to survive

It's tough out there, and *getting tougher. Not only* does a scriptwriter have the long haul of getting work on the screen but, with any *prospect of success, he has to* cook up a tie-in diary of its making. All these efforts are dwarfed by the hilariously *harrowing 35-year record that* is *Going Mad in Hollywood*.

It opens in 1960 with David Sherwin's failure at Oxford, a *disappointment to his* classical-don parents but of a piece with a subsequent pell-mell life. Hopes of a movie-writing *career find him filming* diesel engines at sea. Sherwin is also embroiled in domestic arrangements of a repeatedly *byzantine complexity*. Sleepwalking, a recalcitrant Citroën, dodgy teeth, sadness at limited access to his son and *sneers from* a teenage *daughter* only exacerbate those suicidal and alcoholic impulses which have him teetering upon bankruptcy or, worse, beholden to the DHSS.

Christopher Hawtree

GOING MAD IN HOLLYWOOD
By David Sherwin
André Deutsch, £17.99

Terrifying as it is to contemplate this turbulence, one must *be thankful for it. A more* orderly man would not have been up to writing *If...* and *O, Lucky Man!* as well as the *masterly, shamefully* neglected *Britannia Hospital*. The first of these appeared a year after Joe Orton's death, and *Sherwin, himself so often* holed up in one room, is the nearest that we have had to *that blistering spirit*. If those *movies are generally regarded* as Lindsay Anderson's, *Going Mad in Hollywood* gives a continual insight into the dynamics of a partnership which saw each man at his outlandish best (with *a shared taste in* off-beat books).

Sherwin, Anderson and Bo Widerberg: Cannes, 1969

Sherwin's eye for the quotidian bizarre is acute. It's well known that Jill Bennett left a fortune to Battersea Dogs' Home *but not that this will* was a teenage joke and, there being *no other*, it had to stand. During the LA *riots*, an archbishop is interviewed on television. "What are you doing about this catastrophe, Monsignor?" "I've faxed the Pope." "And what has the Pope done?" "He's faxed me a prayer." This is only a mite *less surreal than* the chaplain in a drawer in *If...*

Confession of his manic energy led the DHSS to deny *him* income support. If only such people were as enlightened as the newspaper Editor Stewart Steven (then at *The Mail on Sunday*) who, on hearing of this, gave *him* a retainer of £100 a week and "£1 a word if you write anything". Well, here — and rather cheaper — is a record both of a time when anything seemed possible (but probably wasn't) and one when all looked hopeless (*but might not* be). Sherwin feared the complete diary "an out-of-control monster" but this version leaves one avid for *more*.

Diseases desperate grown

READERS who *enjoy being* escorted through jungles and slums guided by a master scientist will take pleasure from *this* panorama of the great diseases that have plagued mankind. Charles Darwin had that rare knack of combining personal reminiscence with *scientific instruction*; the late Lewis Thomas was a genius at doing that for clinical medicine; and Wills is their worthy successor.

English-born but now a professor of biology in California, Wills is a practised science populariser, with books to his credit like *The Wisdom of the Genes* (1989). *His forte lies in* simplifying complex technical information and presenting it in personal contexts. *Plagues* opens in a Peruvian shanty *town* on the *banks* of the Amazon, where Wills inspects the recent cholera epidemic, before proceeding to explain the disease's epidemiology *and* emergence. For thousands of years exclusive to the Indian subcontinent, cholera then circuited the globe in six terrible pandemics in the 19th century, thanks to communications *revolutions. Who can* miss the parallel with Aids, probably long confined in African equatorial forests?

Wills then moves to India *itself. Assailed by the stench* and sewage of Madras, he goes in search of the cause of the devastating 1994 plague outbreak. He then resumes *the cholera trail, but in time* not in space, going back in history to 1854 when John Snow tracked an eruption of deaths in Soho to a contaminated *water-pump. Snow got* the parish officers to remove the handle, and the outbreak ended. Turning to typhoid allows Wills to work in the *remarkable tale of his grandparents under the Raj, and* then malaria elicits the medical history of an uncle in the Burma jungle during the Second World War.

Roy Porter

PLAGUES
Their Origin, History and Future
By Christopher Wills
HarperCollins, £20

In depicting the precarious relations between man, disease and environment, Wills strikes a responsible balance. He rightly emphasises that we *live in a world of epidemiological* dangers of our own creation — environmental blight, overpopulation, pharmaceutical myopia; diseases *are unpredictable, evolution* works in mysterious ways, and *modern medicine* is all *too* often a stopgap, Band-aid affair.

Yet he avoids "killer viruses" *panic*. Microbes themselves, he points out, *often find* it hard to survive, and excess "success" — the creation of plagues — can be, from the *disease's point of view*, quite self-destructive. Nor *is he* blind to improvement where it is occurring — better food supply in modern India, for *instance, is helping* the war against disease.

Overall there is a fine intellectual command in Wills's evocation of the complex *chains and cycles* of nature, and a mature sense of the paradoxical role of man as both steward and wrecker of the micro-ecological system. Wills is to be respected *for* avoiding easy answers: he has *no dead-cert predictions about* the likely occurrence of "hot zone" viruses.

Wills writes confidently with a gift for memorable phrases — *plague fleas* are visualised as "mobile hypodermic needles". Combining history, travelogue, scientific exposition, autobiography and *commentary on world* eco-politics, Wills *provides* a sure guide to the medical problems and promises of the *end of* the second millennium, and enlarges *our grasp of the* evolution of disease.

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Peter Stothard wonders why we do not know of more women poets in the ancient world, and what their absence might reveal

Hurrahs for the heroines of old

There are no known women novelists from ancient Greece. There are some women poets but few of them are known. There are no love duets in classical Greek theatre. As Octavio Paz writes in his essay, *The Prehistory of Love*, it is easy to comb the anthologies and find "lovers in their different moods — desire, sensual pleasure, disillusionment, jealousy, ephemeral happiness". It is hard to find the matching view of a lover's partner, "the sentiments and emotions of the Other".

For many centuries of scholarship this was not a problem. Classicists were predominantly men steeped in a Platonic philosophy that made love a solitary search for perfection, not a human relationship. Only in 1975, with the publication of Sarah Pomeroy's *Goddesses, Whores, Wives and Slaves*, were we led to think about how the female Other might have felt about the erotic poetry, violent tragedy and bawdy stories that swirled about her.

Since then a feminist industry has devoted itself to such issues.

THE DOUBLE FLAME
Essays on Love and Eroticism
By Octavio Paz
Harvill, £14.99

CLASSICAL WOMEN POETS
Translated by Josephine Balmer
Bloodaxe, £7.95

Why have so few words from a female point of view survived from ancient times? Were they not written? Or were they not thought worth preserving? When classical culture was at its 5th-century Athenian height, why was work by women even more than usually scarce? As for what has survived, is it any good?

For Octavio Paz, writing with the confidence of a Nobel prize-winning poet, one answer is clear: the Athens of Plato and Pericles, politically powerful, socially conservative and self-consciously artistic, was no place for a woman who wanted to write. He argues that literature which exposed the female side of sexual relationships had to wait another 100 years for the more open, cosmopolitan and depoliticised culture of Alexandria.

To make his point he chooses a piece by Theocritus, commonly known as the father of pastoral poetry but who, in this context, is best seen as an early country-and-western star, crooning songs of love and abandonment. Theocritus does indeed show a masterly understanding of his city-girl heroine, Simaetha, as her love for a smooth-bodied, smooth-talking athlete moves through fire and ice into hate. Paz might just as easily have chosen the third book of Apollonius's *Argonautica* which also blazes new trails in the description of Medea's feelings — somewhere between sexual ecstasy and a severe headache — on first meeting the handsome hero, Jason. Both of these writers, of course, are men.

Sappho: the last of her line?

Could he have found a woman writer to make his point? Josephine Balmer has recently brought together in a slim paperback the work of all the female poets of the classical world. Using this as a convenient guide, the absence of women rivals to the Athenian geniuses is clear enough. A certain Charixena is the only known woman who may have written verse in 5th-century Athens: none of it has survived. Some women's work did travel. Praxilla, who lived on the Gulf of Corinth, was paid the compliment (possibly barbed) of a parody by the Athenian high comedian Aristophanes. In place of her "scorpion" who "waits under every stone" he inserts "a politician". But for later writers she became an unambiguous figure of fun: "sillier than Praxilla" became a proverb.

Corinna, who lived further north in Tanagra, has left behind enough work to prove herself a skilled poet. She writes of daughters and dreams; she challenges the chariot-racing subject matter of Pindar by hymning glories closer to home, "hurrahed in our heroines". She is said to have defeated Pindar (a man of high and lengthy style) in a poetry competition; but cynics said that was only because of her good looks. In another jibe that was to become familiar to successors, Telesilla of Argos was recognised only as a "woman's writer".

By the 3rd century B C, three unequivocally serious women poets were at work: Nossis at Locri in southern Italy, Erinna at Rhodes and Anyte in Arcadia. Nossis proudly takes the side of prostitutes. Erinna writes of the fatal move of a childhood girlfriend to a man's bed, the moment when "that thief desire stole all memory away". Anyte's epitaphs for animals not only rise far above cuteness but set a pattern for generations of male and female followers.

But those initial questions remain. If we possessed everything written by these writers, not merely the pieces that were judged interesting or acceptable by later critics, schoolteachers and Christian scholars, would we be able to know more about how Paz's ancient Other felt?

Balmer's book begins, as does Paz's essay, with the one poem by an ancient Greek woman that, by itself, makes this subject both so magnificent and so maddening. Sappho lived around 600 B C, 300 years before Theocritus. Her poem which describes the physical desperation of seeing a loved one with a rival man is one of the most intense in all Western literature.

Perhaps the conditions in which a woman could develop the ideas in this tiny fragment never recurred. But almost every year now, with the help of new archaeological techniques, new papyri are pulled from the sites of antiquity. Perhaps the poet who will make Paz revise his essay is just a spadeful of sand away.

The author is Editor of The Times

Grief emerges into light

In the initial months of euphoria which followed the IRA's ceasefire there was much literary speculation in Ireland about how Northern Irish writers would reflect the new flood of optimism and, as in some political circles, much glib talk of drawing a line under the past.

Deirdre Madden's latest novel wisely asserts the need to build a better future through the painful but vital process of confronting the past, of seeking to come to terms with what was done to each of us and what was done to others in our name. One of her characters envisages a future memorial constructed in the form of a room, three of its walls covered by neat rows of names of the dead — "a place which afforded dignity to memory, where you could bring your anger, as well as your grief".

The novel focuses on the women of the Quinn family, their relationships with each other and their individual searches to find an outlet for the anger and grief which taint their lives after the sectarian murder of a husband and father. Cate, one of the daughters and a successful journalist in London, returns to the rural family home bringing a secret and shaken self-confidence: this sudden act of terror leaves her feeling like a tightrope walker teetering over an abyss. Her sister, Helen, a solicitor who has sublimated her life to an altruistic pursuit of legal aid cases is increasingly torn by self-doubt and the moral ambiguities of her work. The youngest daughter Sally finds her life narrowed into an emotional support for her mother.

David Park

ONE BY ONE IN THE DARKNESS
By Deirdre Madden
Faber, £14.99

Madden, whose previous work has been rewarded with both the Rooney Prize and a Somerset Maugham Prize, constructs her story round a week in the life of the family, interspersing it with memories of the girls' childhood which coincides with the beginning of the Troubles. At times this part of the story runs the risk of becoming a potted history of the Troubles, a bit like being or one of the new guided bus tours now visiting Belfast's best-known trouble spots. The novel's strength, however, is to be found in the sensitive understanding and portrayal of the women's grief as each struggles to construct meaning from the irreparably meaningless.

Emily, the mother, becomes obsessed with growing flowers because "It made her able to bear time, because it hooked her into the circle of the seasons, and time would otherwise have been a horrible straight line, a straight, merciless journey at speed towards death." Her daughters seek their own salves but all of them discover that there are no defences against memory.

The novel ends with no easy resolution and yet perhaps that itself speaks of hope. As the youngest daughter says, "In this society it's the people who aren't confused, it's the people who know exactly what they think and feel about things who are the most dangerous."

The city that doesn't love a wall

West Berlin was the Great Metaphor of the Cold War: outpost of democracy, oasis of freedom, beacon of hope, fuse of war. For 45 years, Berlin was a powder-keg, loophole and flashpoint. And everything anyone needed to know about the Cold War could be summed up in a glance at the jagged, concrete wall that ran through the centre of the town like an ugly gash on the face of Europe. The wall divided not only the city, but the nation and the Continent.

The four victorious powers had agreed to the joint administration of Berlin well before Russian forces captured and pillaged the city in the spring of 1945. The Americans, British and French approached the postwar occupation as a transition phase leading to an overall settlement for Germany as a whole. For the Soviets, however, the juicy fruit of military victory was the subjugation and division of Germany and they weren't about to give it up. What the Western powers thought temporary, the Kremlin made permanent, and this difference of perception and interest underlay the tensions that afflicted Berlin for almost half a century.

Raymond Seitz

THE LAST DIVISION
Berlin and the Wall
By Ann Tusa
Hodder & Stoughton, £20

The Russians obstructed every effort to return Germany to normalcy. So the Allies proceeded unilaterally to rebuild their zones of the country. The creation of the mark, the election of a government in Bonn, and membership in the EEC and eventually Nato each brought greater prosperity and stability to West Germany.

Berlin, however, remained a frozen wartime anachronism of four-power rights and four-power garrisons. And so tenuous was the Western position there that the slightest squeeze of the Soviet hand could bring both sides to the brink of war. When the wall went up in August 1961, it came as a kind of relief for Western leaders. The Allies had expected worse — perhaps a showdown over quadripartite rights — but the Russians maintained the *de jure* illusion of a *de facto* reality, and Berlin continued in its uneasy, schizophrenic condition.

Ann Tusa relates the saga of Berlin and its terrible wall with a vivacity which eludes most scholars who have tried to untangle the city's postwar history. She takes us along the Berlin roller coaster from the airlift which broke the Soviet blockade in 1948 through all the ups and downs of failed negotiations in the years that followed. Her thumbnail sketches of political leaders are superb, especially the figures of the 1950s when the Cold War was chilliest. Nikita Khrushchev, the peasant bully from Ukraine, issued ominous ultimatums and nuclear threats as if they were so much casual chit-chat. De Gaulle was the stern, disdainful, tough-minded statesman who fixed his grand European design on French accommodation with the new Germany. Pig-headed and iron-willed, Konrad Adenauer was contemptuous of Eastern Germans (whom he called "Chinese") and determined that the West hold a firm line. Eisenhower seemed clear-eyed if not visionary and frustrated by Allied bickering. And Harold Macmillan comes off as a kind of diplomatic Micawber, always willing to negotiate, always ready to compromise, always hoping something will turn up and always mistrusted by the others.

John Kennedy's grasp of Berlin's complexities was incomplete ("*Ich bin ein Berliner*," Kennedy's inspired declaration in front of the Wall in 1963, is properly translated "I am a doughnut"): Willy Brandt cautiously prised open Eastern channels with his Small Steps Ostpolitik; and Walter Ulbricht and Erich Honecker gave flawless performances as contemptible quislings.

The real story of Berlin, however, is inevitably the story of Berliners: those stranded on the western side of the wall who were stoic, defiant and willing to accept any change in the "Berlin weather"; those imprisoned on the eastern side who endured impoverishment and captivity; and those thousands of refugees who escaped across the border and whose courage ultimately brought down the wall.

Tusa sweeps through the tedium of diplomatic notes and the arcanum of quadripartite administration without losing the essential drama of the plot. She writes with entertaining verve. Describing a Foreign Office official's headlong descent into slippery-slope logic, she says: "Not for Sir Anthony a slow traverse; he closed his skis and schussed straight down."

This is a fine book, though it is perhaps a chapter short. The complex political manoeuvrings that ended the wartime status of Berlin in 1990, secured the unification of Germany and ended the Cold War deserve fuller treatment. The characters then were just as intriguing and the events just as compelling. But perhaps the records are not sufficiently open yet, and for all the colour of Ann Tusa's style, her research is both meticulous and confident. Surely she is schussing into a second volume right now.

Raymond Seitz is Vice-Chairman of Lehmann Brothers International, and was American Ambassador to the United Kingdom 1991-94

At last a change in the "Berlin weather": East and West Germans demonstrate as the wall is breached at the Brandenburg Gate, December 1989

An awful warmth about their hearts

Rachel Cusk

HEAT WAVE
By Penelope Lively
Viking, £16

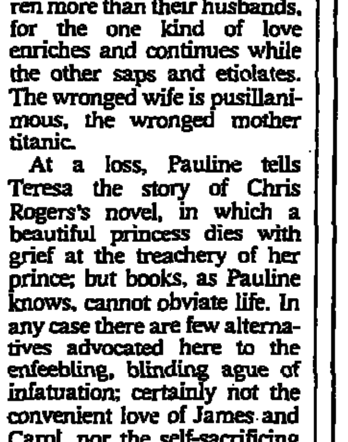
PENELOPE LIVELY is the mistress of the drama of reflection, of emotion recollected in tranquillity, activity in a state of occasionally unbearable sedateness. Her characters are people for whom events must first pass through the prism of what has already happened to them, where the reader is challenged with the possibility that the best has already passed, and where the slow revelation of this best is accompanied by the growing certainty that nothing further will occur.

It is a mournful strategy, and one which runs the risk of slowing the contrasting clip of Lively's voice to a drone, but it houses too the unexpected darkness of her vision, which insists on the unlikeliness of redemption, resilient even against fiction.

Heat Wave is an oppressive novel, not merely with the incipient gloom of occluded tragedy, but in its use, reminiscent of *The Go-Between*, of heat to exert a warping effect on the English sensibility. It will be interesting to see whether last summer's weather produces a crop of such novels, and how the customary dampness of the psychological drama will fare in this new climate. In fact, the heat wave, with its attendant suspense, secrecy and mounting turbulance, is an almost superflous addition to a story already biscuit-dry and replete with its own stringencies. Its effect on the rural landscape that is the novel's setting is nicely observed, but the madness and menace of unnatural sun remain outside the viscera of Lively's narrative.

This omission would occasionally seem deliberate. *Heat Wave* is a novel remarkable for its absence of flesh and physical sensation, for the glint of steel at its heart. The more its characters fail to sweat, the more apparent it becomes that their conflicts are embedded deep in some dark, cold shaft of misery resistant to weather.

Lively's theme is sexual jealousy and infidelity. Her formulation for it is not new, but the freight of accusation — unreconstructed, adamant — her conclusions carry is formidable. Using a group of couples Lively smuggles in a story of old-fashioned abuses, of the sort now more often crowded out of the confessional.


Lively: insistent darkness

Pauline, a middle-aged copy editor long since divorced from her philandering academic husband Harry, spends a summer in the country with her daughter Teresa, her daughter's husband Maurice, and their small son. Pauline is deeply suspicious of Maurice, a successful writer and erstwhile friend. Teresa is infatuated with him, ignorant of the long-ago betrayals through whose bitter tracery her mother now sees the world. Maurice himself is blithe and egotistical, self-absorbed, fond of approval, the quintessential man-child.

This fated group shares a remote pair of adjoining cottages, where Maurice is writing a high-profile book about tourism and Pauline is editing a strange and fantastical novel about romantic love, while Teresa enacts an idyll of wifely bliss in the garden. Around them satellites gather and revolve: Maurice's editor James and his predatory girlfriend, Carol; Pauline's old friend, Hugh, who has spent most of his married life caring for his mentally unstable wife; Chris Rogers, Pauline's author, whose wife has just left him and their children, and Harry, remarried in California, threatening to visit.

Gazing from the window in front of her desk, Pauline watches the painful pageant of her past unfold, a picture into which Maurice unwittingly sidles, thinking himself unobserved until he fits its contours exactly. Maurice has idly embarked on an affair with the less-than-exalted Carol, a development unknown to Teresa or James but murderously observed by the still raw-nerved Pauline.

Her increasingly charged study of Maurice's manoeuvres accrues a kind of historic wrath. Different kinds of love, Lively suggests, inevitably conflict, in which case mothers must and do love their children more than their husbands, for the one kind of love enriches and continues while the other saps and etiolates. The wronged wife is pusillanimous, the wronged mother titanic.

At a loss, Pauline tells Teresa the story of Chris Rogers's novel, in which a beautiful princess dies with grief at the treachery of her prince; but books, as Pauline knows, cannot obviate life. In any case there are few alternatives advocated here to the enfeebling, blinding ague of infatuation; certainly not the convenient love of James and Carol, nor the self-sacrificing devotions of Hugh.

TO RELIEVE the gloom, Lively permits the cheering return of Chris Rogers's wife, but this is merely a brief flicker in a more insistent darkness, through which the novel moves unsparingly to its conclusions, these being that you can only trust your friends, and that women are better off on their own. It goes almost without saying that Penelope Lively's writing is as clear and poised as ever, but here it gives shape to something more sinister, more disturbing, more exact in its aim than even her admirers might have expected.

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TODAY, *The Times* offers you the chance to win tickets to the biggest sporting event in Britain for 30 years — the Euro 96 soccer championships.

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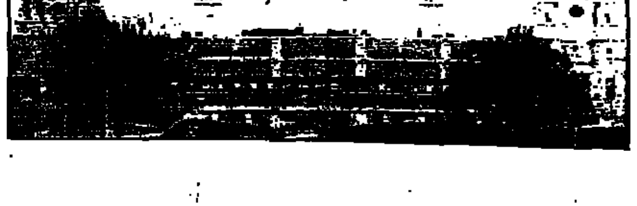


Bargains of the week — offers on ferries, flights and hotels, including treats for scuba divers and music lovers

FERRIES

SEA France continues to discount by cutting 50 per cent off brochure prices on Dover-Calais bookings made in advance for travel in May or June. Details: 01304 204204.

■ IRISH Ferries is offering deals for travel between May 27 and July 11 on Pembroke-Rosslare and Holyhead-Dublin routes with prices for a car and up to five adults starting from £104 for 48-hour returns. Details: 0345 171717.

■ WIGHTLINK has special fares on its Lymington to Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, service. A car and up to four passengers can travel for £33 return on off-peak sailings and for £50 for weekend sailings until July. Details from Eurodrive: 0181-324 4000.

■ STENA Line has added new holiday packages for this summer through a deal with Minotel Hotels in Germany and Austria. Prices start at £76 per person for one night, including ferry crossing, with extra nights from £34 each. Details: 01233 211010.

■ BRITTANY Ferries has relaunched its summer service between Poole and St Malo with fares starting at £111 for a car and driver for a five-day return. Details: 0990 360360.

HOLIDAYS

CRETE, Skopelos or Skiathos for a fortnight for £199 per person with room-only accommodation are among several offers from Page & Moy all with departures from Gatwick or Luton next Tuesday. Details: 0116 250 7116.

■ SAN ANTONIO, Ibiza, is available from £249 per person including a fortnight's bed and breakfast from Sunworld with flights from Gatwick and Manchester next Wednesday. Details: 0113 255 5222.

■ A NINE-NIGHT camping trek through Tuscany taking in San Gimignano and Siena, with a flight from Heathrow on June 2, is available from Sherpa Expeditions for £645 per person. Details: 0181-577 2717.

■ SAVINGS of £80 are on offer for a fortnight's holiday in Gozo from Malta Direct Travel with flights from Gatwick on June 3 and 10. The new price including half-board is £372 per person. Details: 0181-785 3233.

■ DESTINATION Red Sea is offering a week's bed and breakfast accommodation at the Pigeon House beach chalets, Sharm el Sheikh, from £199 per person with flights on June 13 and 20. Details: 0181-440 9900.

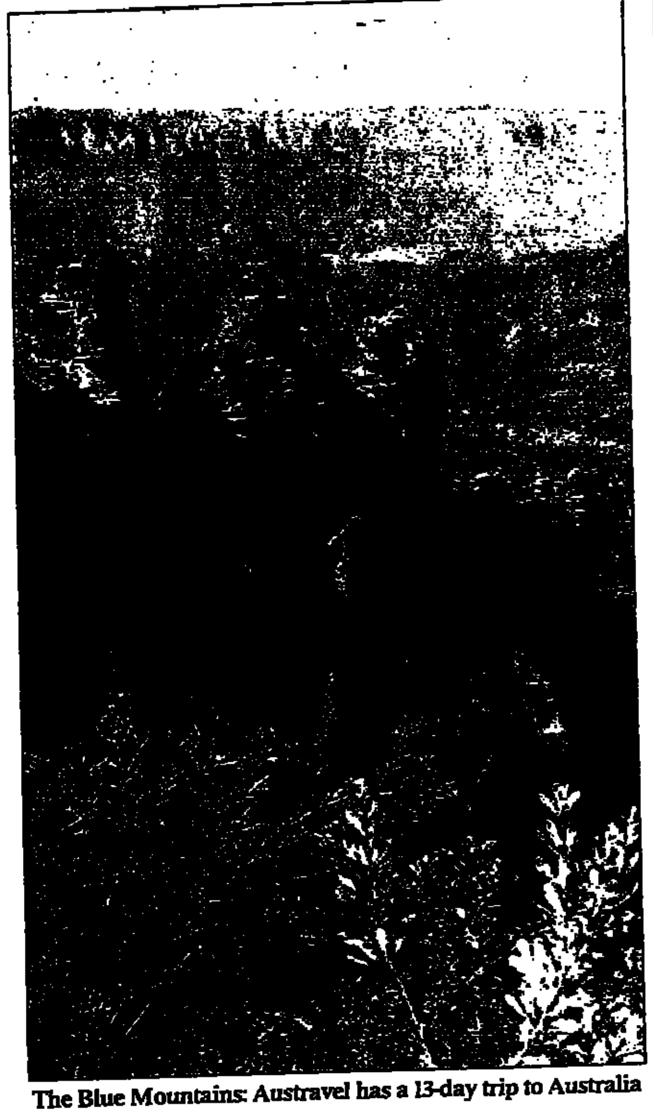
■ A HIDEAWAY villa in Majorca combined with a manor house in Menorca are among options offered by Club Pollensa Holidays. The price for a fortnight's holiday starting on June 7 for a party of eight is £2,490 (£320 each) including car hire and inter-island ferries but not flights. Details: 01903 230128.

■ AUSTRAVEL has put together a 13-day trip including the Barrier Reef, Sydney Opera House and Ayers Rock with prices starting from £1,199 per person including flights and accommodation. Departures begin on November 21 and continue until next March. Details: 0171-734 7755.

■ THE MALDIVES for a fortnight for £499 per person is on offer from Crusader Travel with a flight on June 2. Single travellers pay no extra and week-long half-board holidays at a beach resort are also available for the same price. Details: 0181-744 0474.

■ OR, FOR £955 per person, a saving of £540, stay in 4-star accommodation on the islands for a fortnight with all meals, drinks, sports and trip to a local fishing village included from The Holiday Place. Departures from Gatwick on June 2, 8 and 16. Details: 0171-435 8071.

SHEREE SMITH



The Blue Mountains: Austravel has a 13-day trip to Australia

HOTELS

THE Novotel hotel chain is offering a book of five discount vouchers with a value of £60 for just £24. It is redeemable at 200 hotels across Europe including 18 in the UK. Each voucher gives £12 or the equivalent off already discounted weekend and Bank Holiday rates. Available from the reception desks in Novotel hotels. Details: 0181-748 4580.

■ FIRST Option, the discount hotel reservations agency, has a new leisure-break brochure offering special weekend deals. The company has a telephone "search and book" facility covering all UK hotels. Details: 0345 565657.

■ THE NEW 100-page guide to service accommodation in Europe and North America is available free from the Apartment Service. The company also offers privately owned flats for stays of one month or more. Details: 0181-944 6744.

■ THE Chelsea Hotel in London's Knightsbridge is celebrating the first phase of its £10-million renovation programme with a weekend theatre package, including two tickets for a West End show plus English breakfast or Sunday brunch. Cost is £99.50 per person for one night's accommodation until August 31. Details: 0171-838 9650.

■ A CULTURAL break at Crosby, near Liverpool, is available from the Blundellsands Hotel, a Victorian property with 41 rooms. A two-night half-board stay includes a travel pass, entrance to the Maritime Museum and the Museum of Liverpool Life. Cost is £87 per person and is available throughout July and August. Details: 0151 924 6515.

■ LISTEN to Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* in the candlelit grounds of Castle Howard in Yorkshire on Saturday, June 29, with supper split both before and after the performance at the nearby Worsley Arms Hotel. Price per couple is £165, including accommodation, dinner, transport to Castle Howard and concert tickets. Details: 01653 628234.

■ A SUMMER barbecue is on offer from the Westbury Hotel in Mayfair. Groups of ten or more pay £18 per person for a welcome glass of Pimms and a barbecue on the hotel's seventh-floor terrace. Details: 0171-629 7755.

■ THE LAKES Country Cottages is offering £40 off week-long holidays at Charlcot Lodges, near Masham in Yorkshire. The price per week for up to five people comes down to £250 for new bookings. Details: 01282 445097.

FLIGHTS

JOIN Air France's loyalty club, make three return flights between London City and Paris Orly before July 15 and earn a free Psion Organiser worth £350. Details 0181-742 6600.

■ DURING May, Alitalia's Italy Best offers include return flights to Rome for £160 and to Naples and Genoa for £150. Other cities include Milan £174, Bologna £163, Florence £175 and Venice £187. Details 0171-602 7111.

■ BUSINESS-class flights to New York flying Icelandair via Reykjavik cost just £912 return (60 per cent less than normal) when booked through Travelpack. The same fare also covers flights to Boston, Baltimore, Orlando and Fort Lauderdale. Details 0990 747101.

■ THOMAS Cook has negotiated special fares with British Midland for travel in May and June. Return tickets to Amsterdam cost £63 with Nice priced at £108, Zurich £88, Palma £140 and Malaga £149. Book seven days ahead and no later than June 2. Details 0171-499 4000.

■ JERSEY European has introduced a lower £79 return fare between Exeter and Dublin. Details 01392 360777.

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Does air travel have a future?

I AM beginning seriously to wonder whether the predicted growth in air travel will ever happen — at least to and from Britain.

Throughout the world many more people want to travel and can afford to do so. Airlines, planemakers, analysts and forecasters all predict that the number of passengers will double within ten or 15 years. Many millions of these travellers will want to come to Britain, particularly London.

But to do so they will have to use an airport. And nothing is guaranteed to lead to such fierce opposition as airport development. Successive governments have tried to tackle the problem, and dropped it once they realised the political and practical difficulties.

As a result, there is no coherent policy on airport development and a growing belief that any future growth will be choked because of a lack of the necessary runways and terminals.

An all-party group of MPs has laboured long and hard to work out what should be done and to make recommendations for action. Their report, *UK Airport Policy*, published this week, proves how near-impossible the task will be.

They want the Government to produce a White Paper. They want more information on possible climate change caused by aircraft emissions and on the economic benefits of air travel.

The Travel Business

◆

HARVEY ELLIOTT

"The Government," they say, "should form a view as to what would be a sustainable level of air transport."

It is all very well to demand that "the Government" makes up its mind quickly, but the political reality is that any government would unleash furious public opposition if it expanded air transport. No government will ever willingly grasp such a nettle.

So all that can be done is to talk about the problem and set up inquiries.

The committee has come up with a few suggestions. It wants to speed up the cumbersome planning procedures by having the main policy issues debated in Parliament rather than in a public inquiry. It wants airports and airlines to pay more to counter environmental damage. It suggests that Northolt and Redhill could become useful "feeder-reliever" airports for Heathrow and Gatwick, and it wants the Civil Aviation Authority to study the development of a close parallel runway at Gatwick.

Some of its proposals, such as the possible splitting up of BAA, may not make obvious sense and the idea that at some time it may be necessary to build an airport in the Thames Estuary is wishful thinking.

The MPs do accept that "something" has got to be done. Soon. The trouble is they don't know what. Nor does the Government. Nor do I. Nor, I suspect, do those who spend their entire working lives trying to decide.

So there will continue to be indecision. In ten years our airports really will be full. And millions of planned holiday flights, or business trips, may have to be abandoned.

Rural France on the map

By Steve Keenan and Tony Dawe

BRITISH holidaymakers who are going to France this year are heading inland to avoid paying high prices in seaside areas, according to a new survey.

Crystal Holidays reports that the Dordogne and the Côte d'Azur, still the two most popular destinations, have been joined for the first time by Brittany and rural Charente in the list of top ten regions.

In a separate survey, Florida has moved up the list of top ten package tour destinations this summer ahead of the Costa Blanca and Canaries.

Crystal claims to have been spared the drop in bookings to France suffered by most tour operators because of the poor exchange rate and French strikes last year. "The current trend is, however, away from busy, more expensive coastal resorts to inland areas where a three-course meal can cost only £6.50 and holidaymakers can shop for wine directly from local vineyards," says Deborah Marshall, Crystal product director.

The emergence of Brittany highlights another trend for 1996, with Britons not prepared to travel so far in France, cutting out the expense of petrol, motorway tolls and overnight stops.

GMF Holidays is also claiming good bookings but decided this week to offer a free Le Shuttle crossing or a week's free car hire for July and August Côte d'Azur holidays booked this month.

The parlous state of the French holiday market, still 25 per cent down on last year, was borne out by increased discounting in the camping and mobile home market, including an offer by Canvas Holidays this week to cut 30 per cent off brochure prices for June holidays in France.

The package tour survey, by Portland Holidays, Britain's leading direct selling company, revealed a growth in popularity for farther-flung destinations such as Florida and Turkey.

Nigel David, Portland's managing director, says: "As holidaymakers become more experienced and the cost falls, we can expect to see several more 'exotic' destinations in our top ten next year."

TOP 10 FRENCH REGIONS

1	Dordogne
2	Côte d'Azur
3	Languedoc
4	South Brittany
5	North Brittany
6	Rural Charente
7	Loire Valley
8	Coastal Charente
9	Tarn
10	Provence

Source: Crystal Holidays

TOP 10 SUMMER DESTINATIONS

1	Majorca
2	Ibiza
3	Florida
4	Cyprus
5	Menorca
6	Costa Blanca
6	Turkey
8	Gran Canaria
9	Tenerife
9	Lanzarote

Source: Portland Holidays

Japan a new tourist target

By Harvey Elliott

VIRGINIA Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, is to fly to Japan on Saturday at the head of a 20-strong group from some of Britain's leading cities, hotels and tourist attractions to persuade thousands more high-spending Japanese tourists to visit Britain.

The 642,000 Japanese — 80 per cent of them young women — who came to Britain last year spent an average of £860 each during their stay, making Japan an important economic target. Japanese visitors spent a total of £553 million on hotels, shopping, sightseeing and other activities in Britain last year, 35 per cent more than in 1994.

Norma Jarboe, the chief executive of Cardiff Marketing, said: "The Japanese are law-abiding . . . the most delightful of guests."

Wales already has the biggest share of Japanese investment in Britain and hopes to boost visits by friends and relatives to senior staff now working in factories there. Mrs Jarboe also plans to talk to Japanese groups that organise visits by students, newlyweds and schools.

Virginia Bottomley

A three-year sales drive has already increased the proportion of Japanese visitors staying in English Lakes Hotels from nought to 25 per cent. Now Simon Berry, the marketing director, hopes to boost the numbers of Japanese tourists in his five hotels still further by taking part in the trip to Tokyo and Osaka.

Diane Lomax of the Greater Manchester Visitor and Convention Bureau intends to begin talks with airlines to open up new routes between Japan and Manchester. The British Tourist Board is partly sponsoring the trip.

SPECTRUM

Honeymoon couple in the Maldives — but the trend for newlyweds now is towards adventure as well as romance

Newlyweds branch out

By Tony Dawe

THE nature of exotic honeymoons is beginning to change. This week tour operators are reporting a trend among newly-marrieds to seek more adventure on holiday.

The Caribbean, with its laid-back lifestyle beneath the palm trees, remains the most popular choice for honeymoons and weddings abroad, but an increasing number of newly-weds are heading for Borneo, East Africa and even the Comores, off the northeast coast of Madagascar.

Tropical Places lists St Lucia and Barbados as its two most popular honeymoon destinations this year, followed by Mauritius, Kenya and Jamaica. The Sussex-based company says many couples opting for Kenya combine a luxury safari with a week at an Indian Ocean resort, flying into the Masai Mara in a light aircraft for five days before retiring to the beach for a week.

Jennette McDonald of Tropical Places says that all-inclusive holidays are also popular as couples will know exactly how much they have to pay, an important factor after an expensive wedding.

"Most hotels will offer something special for honeymooners," she adds, "ranging from the traditional sparkling wine and flowers to a river rafting trip on the Martha Brae river in Jamaica when you stay at the new Braco Village resort.

"Among the less well-known destinations being requested are the Comores, with miles of deserted white sandy beaches but where watersports are also readily available."

Worldwide Journeys and Expeditions says that trekking in Nepal, jungle trips in Borneo and riding holidays in Kenya are beginning to attract honeymooners.

Rowan Paterson, Worldwide director, says: "Couples now seem to be looking for more than just two weeks on the beach for their honeymoons and want a really memorable and adventurous trip instead. A very popular choice is to combine a jungle trek in Borneo with somewhere luxurious on the Malaysian coast."

Lunn Poly reports that the Caribbean remains the most popular venue for a wedding abroad. To underline the point, the Four Seasons Resort on Nevis had 18 honeymoon couples staying last week, including several who had married on the famous Pinney's Beach.

Lunn Poly adds, however, that an increasing number of couples opt for honeymoons on cruises. "A Caribbean cruise is still seen as a romantic holiday of a lifetime and many cruise companies offer free cabin upgrades to honeymoon couples," the company says. "Another major advantage for honeymooners is that as most of the facilities and food are included in the price it is easier to budget when planning the wedding."

China crime alert

By Harvey Elliott

THE FOREIGN Office is warning British visitors to China to be on their guard against rising crime.

The latest travel advice to travel agents and tour operators says: "Muggings in the main cities, sexual harassment and crime on trains are increasing, as are thefts on overnight trains and coach journeys. Foreigners are now regular targets."

The Foreign Office's consular division has rarely issued advice as hard-hitting as this month's on China. The diplomats say: "The trans-Siberian railway is noted for smuggling. Search your compartment for contraband before the journey commences and thereafter secure the door. Drug-smuggling and related crimes are on the increase in Yunnan. The Karacorum and Khunjerab pass routes can be hazardous and lawless."

Of safety, they say: "Only Air China, China Southern, China Eastern and Shanghai Airlines are believed to carry out internationally recognised aircraft-maintenance procedures."

Though tourism to China is growing steadily, the Peking authorities have ruled that no new luxury hotels, office buildings, villas or recreational facilities will be built this year. Instead, State-controlled investment will be targeted to "urban infrastructure, industrial renovation, technology, agriculture and water conservation," they say.

Last year, 184,900 British tourists visted China, a 10.7 per cent increase on 1994. In January this year a further 13,300 made the journey, 18.9 per cent up on the same month last year.

Hanoi is shut

VIETNAM is not allowing tourists into Hanoi next month because a national conference is being held in the capital.

Every hotel room has been taken by party dignitaries and embassies around the world have been ordered to stop issuing visas for travel between June 10 and June 30.

Business travellers who have had their visa applications already endorsed in Hanoi will still be able to travel and tourist visas will be issued normally again in July.

Threat of bird strikes rises

AIRLINES fear that another dry summer could increase the number of potentially dangerous bird strikes as jets take off and land at British airports, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

More than 1,000 incidents of aircraft hitting birds in flight were reported to the Civil Aviation Authority last year — a 25 per cent increase on 1994. Experts are convinced that the rise was caused by last year's long hot summer, which allowed more young birds than normal to survive, and prevented grass from growing on airfields to a height sufficient to deter the birds. Another hot summer could make the problem worse.

A rise in the number of gulls and Canada geese in Britain and the rest of Europe is so worrying airlines and military air commanders that some 140 delegates from 27 nations met last week in London to try to find a solution.

John Thorpe, chairman of the European Bird Strike Committee, said that the grass was grown long so that birds could not see where they were walking and flew elsewhere. "It was clear from our discussions that the 20cm long grass which is recommended just did not grow in the heat."

Last year ten people died when an executive jet flew into a flock of lapwings in Paris; two died when an F15 fighter flew into birds over Israel; and 24 were killed when an American airborne reconnaissance jet flew into a flock of Canada geese in Alaska.

Save on expenses

EUROPEAN companies could save some 6 per cent of their annual business travel costs — equivalent to about £5.6 billion a year — by better handling the way they process travel expenses, *David Churchill writes.*

A survey of 77 major European companies carried out by consultants Price Waterhouse and commissioned by American Express found that most companies waste time and money in the way they reconcile the travel expenses of executives on the move.

This reconciliation accounts for about three quarters of the "hidden" processing costs of business travel. The study shows that the business traveller spends valuable time collecting receipts, itemising expenses and calculating exchange rates.

In the bulk of the companies surveyed, an average of 20 expense reports for overseas travel were submitted by executives each year. Price Waterhouse suggests that this could be reduced to 11 reports if an automated system was adopted. Other suggestions include eliminating internal travel departments and letting executives make their own bookings electronically.

Mr Vahan Eminan, a senior Amex vice-president, says the Price Waterhouse study shows that reducing "the previously hidden costs of business travel represents one of the most important opportunities companies have in the 1990s to save on operating costs".

Cheaper Europe flights on way

By David Churchill

AIRLINE fares throughout Europe are likely to fall sharply in the late 1990s because of greater liberalisation of European aviation from the summer of next year and the growth of no-frills airlines such as Richard Branson's Virgin Express.

Airline executives, European Union officials and other transport experts surveyed for a new study on the impact of the full deregulation of Europe's skies from June 1997 say that greater competition will force airlines to cut prices. Airlines within the EU will be able to fly freely within one another's markets for the first time, a move that threatens the financial viability of some State-aided national carriers.

Already domestic German fares in the first quarter this year have fallen by an average 21 per cent after price-cutting by Lufthansa, eager to protect its market share.

The industry study, by the consultants SH & E and Harrell Associates for American Express, reveals: "There is widespread agreement that fares will come down." This will be partly because of new ways of selling airline tickets that cut out travel agents and their commission, normally 8 per cent of the cost of a ticket. British Midland, for example, is already selling tickets via the Internet.

But many of those surveyed think companies may be less willing to pay for the extras offered by business-class cabins on short-haul European routes. One respondent said: "Passengers don't care about meals and drink; they want frequency and punctuality. They are also becoming more price-conscious."

Another survey, in *Business Traveller* magazine, finds that less than 20 per cent of business passengers regard food and drink on planes as essential.

Kyle Davis, the airfare management unit director for Amex, the credit-card company, says the impact of deregulation will be the "emergence of 'upstart' airlines competing with established flag carriers, with greater choice and falling fares".

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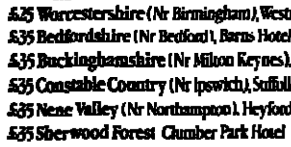

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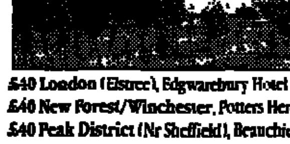

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Novice preferred to Cup veteran

Modahl omission means ill-feeling continues to run

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE British Athletic Federation was accused yesterday of "spiteful" behaviour towards Diane Modahl, the former Commonwealth 800 metres champion who is suing the governing body for losses suffered during her fight against allegations of drug abuse. While Malcolm Arnold, the head coach, referred to the squad that will leave next Thursday for the European Cup in Madrid as "the biggest export of British beef this month", Modahl was left on the butcher's floor.

Kelly Holmes, the 1995 world championship bronze medal-winner, was named for the 800 metres, but, surprisingly, Modahl has not been asked to stand by as cover. Instead, Hayley Parry, a rapidly improving but inexperienced runner, has been nominated. "It is spiteful, nothing less than spiteful," Vicente Modahl, the athlete's coach and husband, said.

If not spiteful, Modahl's exclusion shows, at the very least, a callous disregard for the distress that she has been through. She was banned from her sport in 1994 after failing a drugs test, but fought a costly legal battle to win reinstatement and was cleared in March.

"We had to make up our minds based on information we had last Sunday," Arnold said, as he explained the preference for Parry, who ran 2min 03.77sec on Sunday, four days after Modahl had recorded 2min 04.10sec in the second 800 metres race of her comeback. Arnold gave rise to doubt over whether Holmes would run in the European Cup; that may depend on how she fares in her next race after a poor season's debut over 1,500 metres last weekend.

"I was very impressed with her [Parry] on Sunday," Arnold said. "As much as I sympathise with Diane, we just thought that it was the best situation. If Diane runs 1min 59sec in Hengelo [on Monday], we are seen to be wrong, but we did not have that information on Sunday."

However, Vicente Modahl said: "If they are going on times, how can they pick Du'aine Ladejo and not Iwan Thomas?" Thomas, who is also inexperienced, has run faster than Ladejo for the 400 metres this season, but the latter, like Modahl, is a proven champion.

Ridgeon: ever optimistic

While Modahl and Parry ran their season's best times in adverse weather, Parry had close competition but Modahl won by 16 seconds. "Make no mistake, Kelly deserves the place, but, if she does not run, Diane should have been picked," Vicente Modahl said. "I am very angry. I cannot wait to see them [the BAF] in court." The Modahls are suing for £480,000. The BAF's application for strike-out action is due to be heard on June 26.

"Diane won the European Cup in 1994, but was denied last year [for a suspension] from defending her title and it would have been important for her to try to win again," Vicente Modahl said.

This is the first storm of summer and, if the thunder of last year is repeated, Arnold may resign. The darkest cloud was the one formed by the controversy between Peter Radford, the BAF executive chairman, and Colin Jackson, which led to Jackson failing to defend his 110 metres hurdles world title.

"If I had to go through that all again, I would probably have to leave the sport," Arnold, who took over from Frank Dick in 1994, said. "There were times when I thought: 'I do not need this any more.' When I got to the federation, athletes and coaches were embittered. I do not like turmoil. The only way for the sport to progress is through harmonious relationships."

Much of the disquiet, with the exception of Modahl, seems to have been removed, judging by the strength of the squad named for Madrid, which hosts the competition on June 1 and 2. Jackson, Linford Christie and Fred Salle, the World Cup long jump champion, who each had their arguments with the BAF last summer, are ready and willing.

Christie will be seeking a third successive 100 and 200 metres double and a seventh successive 100 metres title. Tessa Sanderson and Jonathan Ridgeon, both having retired after the 1992 World Cup, will be back in Great Britain vests for the first time since then.

Sanderson, 40, has the women's javelin place and Ridgeon, 29, the men's 400 metres hurdles spot. "Looking at Tessa, I have got 11 years of my career left," Ridgeon, who has fought back from four Achilles tendon operations, said.

Britain's men look strong enough to take the trophy for the first time since 1989, even without Steve Backley, the former javelin world record-holder, whose recent Achilles tendon operation is particularly worrying with the Olympic Games so close.

EUROPEAN CUP TEAMS

MEN: 100m: L Christie (Thames Valley) 200m: Christie. 400m: D Ladejo (Belgrave). 800m: D Strang (Haringey) 1,500m: A Whiteman (GEC) 3,000m: G Lough (Annadale) 5,000m: K Cullen (Chelmsford). 3,000m steeplechase: J Chaston (Belgrave) 110m hurdles: C Jackson (Brecon) 400m hurdles: J Ridgeon (Belgrave) 4 x 100m relay: from Christie, D Braithwaite (Haringey), A Jarrett (Haringey), J John (Birchfield). J Gardener (Bath) 4 x 400m relay: from Ladejo, M Richardson (Windsor), I Thomas (Newham), J Baulch (Cardiff), D Grindley (Wigan), M Hylton (Windsor). High jump: D Grant (Haringey) Pole vault: N Buckfield (Crawley). Long jump: F Salle (Belgrave). Triple jump: J Edwards (Gateshead). Shot: S Pickering (Haringey). Discus: R Weir (Birchfield) Hammer: M Jones (Crawley) Javelin: M Hill (Leeds)

WOMEN: 100m: S Jacobs (Shaftesbury Barnet) 200m: K Merry (Birchfield) 400m: M Neef (Glasgow). 800m: K Holmes (Ealing) 1,500m: A Griffiths (Sale). 3,000m: S McGeorge (Brighton and Hove). 5,000m: A Wyeth (Parkside) 100m hurdles: A Thorp (Wigan) 400m hurdles: S Gunnell (Essex Ladies) 4 x 100m relay: from Jacobs, Merry, P Thomas (Trafford), G McLeod (Birchfield), C Murphy (Shaftesbury Barnet), M Richardson (Windsor, Slough and Eton). 4 x 400m relay: from Neef, Gunnell, P Smith (Sale), A Curbishley (Edinburgh), G Oladapo (Borough of Hounslow), D Fraser (Croydon). High jump: L Haggett (Croydon). Long jump: D Lewis (Birchfield). Triple jump: A Hansen (Essex Ladies) Shot: J Oakes (Croydon). Discus: D Callaway (Aldershot, Farnham and District). Javelin: T Sanderson (Borough of Hounslow)

ALADIN ABDEL NABY

Nicol, left, strives in vain to block Jansher's comfortable progress to the final in Giza

Barada rises to occasion

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN GIZA, EGYPT

CHRIS WALKER'S valiant attempt to reach the finals of both open-air tournaments on the Professional Squash Association world tour only just failed under the night skies of the Giza plateau here late on Tuesday. A two-point margin was all that separated Walker from Ahmed Barada, the world junior champion, at the end of a 112-minute 13-15, 15-11, 17-14, 9-15, 15-13 semi-final of the Al Ahram International.

Walker, 28, the England captain, who will be on duty again next week leading a mixed national team in the World Cup in Kuala Lumpur, went to the final of the Mahindra Challenge on the oval of Bombay's Cricket Club of India last December, but, exciting though that Indian presentation was, the Al Ahram event's extraordinary mix of national sporting achievement and joyous enthusiasm on sands that have witnessed Egyptian progress for more than 5,000 years must rank as the most significant squash happening of the decade.

In front of 2,000 knowledgeable spectators, a sprinkling of sporting and showbusiness stars among them, and in a tense atmosphere, Barada, 19, was playing for national pride. He fought with everything he knew, including a bit of blocking, a bit of acting and the odd bout of histrionics, against a world No 6 who was equally determined. However, at those vital moments that distinguish the great from the good, the Egyptian teenager rose on the wave of emotion around the court to ensure that he should meet Jansher Khan, the world champion, from Pakistan, in last night's final.

In a match that was rarely more than three points apart and in which the appeal referee, Graham Horrex, of England, was required to over-rule his Egyptian junior colleague, Khalid El Shazly, 30 times, Barada clinched the second game with a forehand cross-court pass played astonishingly at full stretch in the top right corner, the third with a forehand overhead cut to the top left nick and the fifth with a series of powered drop shots that left Walker groping. The left-handed Englishman had his own moments, finishing the first game 13-15 with a wonderfully athletic forehand pick-up into the deep left court and dominating the fourth game from 10-8 to 15-9, but in the end they were to no avail.

For once, Jansher Khan was upstaged. His earlier removal of Peter Nicol, of Scotland, 15-11, 15-9, 15-7 in 59 minutes was an excercise in calm efficiency in comparison with the Egyptian's entry to his first significant world tour final.

Gifford has faith in Irish pair to end run of ill luck

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

KRISTINA GIFFORD, one of ten riders shortlisted for the Great Britain three-day event team for Atlanta, will put aside her Olympic aspirations this weekend when she competes with two novice horses at the Windsor international horse trials.

The two-star event, the training ground for many of the sport's top horses, begins today at Windsor Great Park. Leslie Law, also shortlisted for the Olympic Games, and Pippa Funnell, the winner last year, are among the leading British riders competing.

Gifford, who had to withdraw from Badminton earlier this month when her two Olympic contenders, General Jock and Midnight Blue II, sustained minor injuries, is hoping for a change of luck this weekend. She has two rides, O'Leary and Mr Macauley. Both are Irish-bred seven-year-olds who are competing in their first three-day event. "It'll be a big test for them but they're ready for it," Gifford said.

Funnell also has two talented seven-year-olds in Marshland Rubio and Rainbow Magic. The former has had three wins this spring, most recently at Tidworth last week. Rainbow Magic has been placed at each of his five outings this spring. Funnell, who has just recovered from an attack of shingles, considers both horses to have a good chance at Windsor. "They're both very classy, natural jumpers," she said.

Law, who has had three wins on three different horses at Windsor, may be having his last outing on the thoroughbred mare, Best By Miles. He is one of the favourites in the national section.

The foreign entry is headed by Matt Ryan, from Australia, the 1994 Olympic gold medal-winner, and Andrew Nicholson, of New Zealand, the winner of Burghley last year. Ryan rides Kybah Sandstone, a half-brother to his Olympic champion, Kybah Tic Toc, and Gay Faer. It is the first three-day event for both horses. Nicholson rides Highly Rated and Musical Lyric.

Rain — and judicious watering of the course — have softened Windsor's traditionally firm going. The eleventh-hour acquisition of sponsorship has also boosted morale. Nordic Holdings Ltd, Martin Collins Enterprises and The Exton Stud have joined forces to support the event this year.

Somerville crews enjoy day of mixed fortunes

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THERE were the usual hiccups on the first day of Oxford University Summer rowing Eights on the Isis yesterday and some outstanding performances on the river.

As expected, Osler-Green were in a class of their own at the top of the women's division one, finishing four lengths clear of New College, and there was much movement lower down. Somerville's downward spiral continued when they were quickly overhauled by St Catherine's, St Edmund Hall made the quickest bump, catching University, and Wolfson, who started at the bottom, bumped St Anne's.

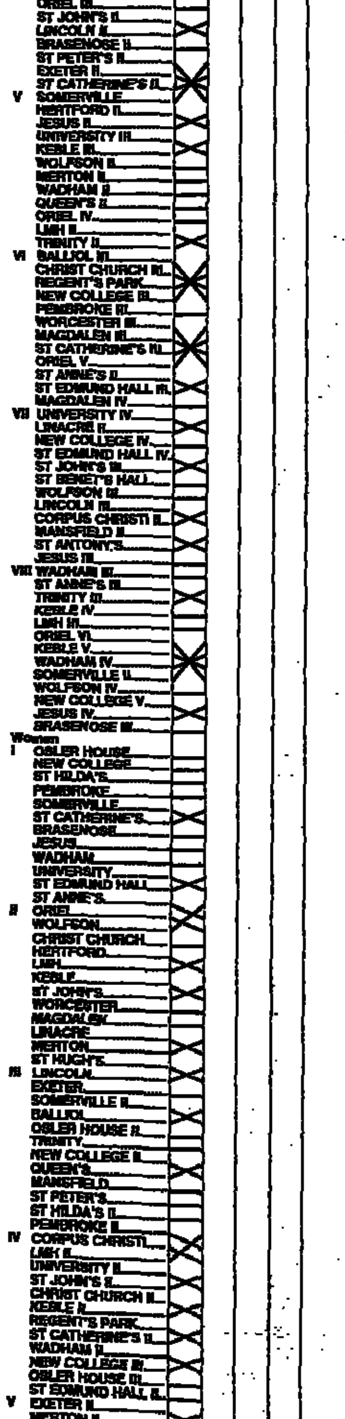
Somerville's second crew also lost ground to Balliol in the women's second division. In contrast, their two men's crews had the distinction of achieving overbumps.

In the men's eighth division, their second eight made up the 6½ lengths to catch Oriel VI after the two boats ahead bumped out, and the top crew firmly established itself in the fourth division by catching St Peter's II to move up three places.

Another of the lesser known colleges, Wolfson, also had a successful day. Their men's first crew emulated the feat of the women by making two bumps and both are expected to make further progress today.

Oriel returned to the top of men's division one, catching Pembroke along the Green Bank, and Magdalen, New College, University and Jesus all made bumps.

Two colleges, Keble and St Hugh's, were fined £50 each for not displaying the regulatory NRA certificate on their boat and the absence of umpires which are provided by colleges also contributed to the £400 fines imposed throughout the day.



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The club position in this hand constantly causes problems.

Dealer South **Love all** **Rubber bridge**

North:
♠K Q 3 2
♥5
♦A J 10 8 6
♣J 7 2

West:
♠5 4
♥Q 10 7 4
♦K 5 4
♣A 10 6 3

East:
♠J
♥A 9 8 6 3 2
♦9 7 2
♣Q 9 8

South:
♠A 10 9 8 7 6
♥K J
♦Q 3
♣K 5 4

S	W	N	E
1 S	Pass	4 S	All Pass

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: four of hearts

East won the first heart and, seeing the powerful diamonds in dummy, returned a club. Declarer hummed and hawed, and eventually put on the king. When West took the ace, he returned a club to East's nine, and so the defence took three club tricks to beat the contract.

It was clearly wrong to play the king of clubs. By playing low, declarer may survive even if the defence takes two club tricks — the diamond king may be onside. By playing the king, declarer risks losing three immediate club tricks, and so will go down even with a favourable diamond position.

But change South's hand slightly, and give him Qxx of diamonds and Kx of clubs. As he can no longer lose more than two club tricks, what should he do on a club return? This is a point I discussed in the Weekend section a year ago. Consider West's opening lead from the following two hands:

a) ♠5 4 ♥Q 10 7 4 ♦K 5 4 ♣Q 10 6 3
b) ♠5 4 ♥Q 10 7 4 ♦K 5 4 ♣A 10 6 3

From a) he might lead a club and he might lead a heart. From b) he will always lead a heart (underleading aces into a strong hand being poor tactics). Thus the lead of a heart is more likely from a hand holding the ace of clubs than from a hand holding the queen of clubs, so again South should play low on the club return.

☐ *Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the* Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

DEMOGORGON
a. A demon
b. A demagogue
c. A *hip-bone*
MANTICORE
a. A nasty beast
b. A carpentry joint
c. Pasta butterflies

BUBASTIS
a. The gad-fly
b. The plague
c. A *cat city*
TARA
a. Finger-knitting
b. The Phoenician digraph TR
c. A high hill

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Good omen

The competition at Seville is now underway, one of the strongest in the history of tournament chess. It contains virtually all of the world's top-ranked players apart from Anatoly Karpov the Fide (world chess federation) champion. Seville will prove a particular test for the American grandmaster Gata Kamsky, who challenges Karpov for the Fide title in a $1.6 million contest starting on June 6 in Elista, the capital of the autonomous Russian republic of Kalmykia.

In round one, Kamsky had to play with Black against Garry Kasparov, the PCA world champion. It is a good omen for Kamsky's chances against Karpov that he held his formidable opponent at bay and survived to an endgame where Kasparov's extra pawn was useless for winning purposes.

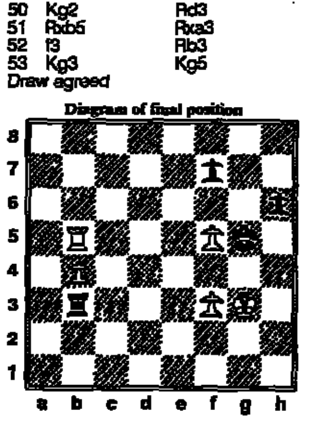
White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Gata Kamsky
Seville, May 1996

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	0-0	Be7
6	Re1	b5
7	Bb3	0-0
8	h3	Bb7
9	d3	d6
10	a3	Kh8
11	Nc3	Qd7
12	Bd2	Rab8
13	Ne2	Nd8
14	Ng3	Ne6
15	c3	c5
16	Bc2	Bd8
17	Be3	Bc7
18	d4	cxd4
19	cxd4	exd4
20	Bxd4	Nxd4
21	Qxd4	Rbe8
22	Nf5	Re6
23	Rad1	Qc6
24	Qd2	Qb6
25	Qg5	Ne8
26	Bb3	Rf6
27	Ne7	Qa7
28	Nd5	Bxd5
29	Rxd5	Bb6
30	Qd2	Nc7
31	Rd3	Bc5
32	e5	dxe5
33	Rxe5	Qb6
34	Rd7	Ne6
35	Bxe6	Rxe6
36	b4	Rd6
37	Rxd6	Bxd6
38	Rd5	Bb8
39	Ne5	Bxe5
40	Rxe5	h6
41	Qd7	Qf6
42	Qe7	Rd8
43	Qxf6	gxf6
44	Re7	Kg7
45	Ra7	Rd6
46	g4	f5
47	gxf5	Rd3
48	Rxa6	Rxh3
49	Ra5	Kf6
50	Kg2	Rd3
51	Rxb5	Rxa3
52	f3	Rb3
53	Kg3	Kg5

Draw agreed

Diagram of final position



First round: Results: Kramnik drew with Polgar; Illescas drew with Gelfand; Ivanchuk drew with Topalov; *Kasparov drew with Kamsky; Anand beat Shirov.*

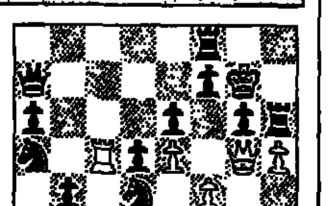
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess *Monday to Friday* in Sport *and in* the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Zsofia Polgar - Dresen, Biel 1987. Polgar's older sister, Zsuzsa, is the women's world champion, while her younger sister, Judith, is one of the strongest players in the world. How did Polgar finish here?

Solution, page 46



SPORTS LETTERS

Wiser choices for England

From Mr David Jones

Sir, The Football Association, in the case of Newcastle United's Faustino Asprilla, decided to ignore the referee's decision during the match and find him guilty of a serious offence because of what it saw on television.

It was a dangerous precedent and one that must now lead it to a similar conclusion with the vicious foul committed by Dennis Wise, of England, in the match against Hungary last Saturday.

Having first wrestled a Hungary defender to the ground by grabbing a leg, Wise appeared quite deliberately to push his studs into the Hungarian's thigh. The television evidence could not have been clearer.

If Terry Venables persists with a player with such a short fuse, the European championship finals could be anything but a showpiece for the best in English football.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID JONES,
6 Gerrard Close,
Whitley Bay,
Tyne and Wear.

Warm welcome

From the Chairman of Marketing Manchester

Sir, I would like to take issue with some of the comments in your article (Soccer Violence, May 20) concerning the possible negative impact of the European football championship finals.

Manchester is hosting five Euro 96 matches at Old Trafford, including a quarter-final and a semi-final. The anticipated yield into the regional economy is £30 million. However, the benefits go beyond this.

Major events provide a stimulus for infrastructure development and for training: 600 people in Manchester have completed the Welcome Host International course which will provide them with skills to ensure that visitors, particularly those from overseas, make the most of their stay here.

Sporting events generate considerable media exposure, providing powerful and positive images of the host nation. This, in turn, raises awareness and generates both interest and the desire to visit.

The Greater Manchester region is one of the most successful competitors in attracting European and worldwide events. We look forward to June and to the world cycling championships in September, the world table tennis championships next May and, of course, the Commonwealth Games in 2002.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID TRIPPIER,
Chairman,
Marketing Manchester,
Churchgate House,
Oxford Street, Manchester 1.

Out of firing-line

From Mr Bernard A. Breese

Sir, The suggestion by Mr Dunkey about penalty shootouts (Sports Letters, May 9) is far too complicated.

The penalty shoot-out should take place before the first tie kicks off. The losers of the shoot-out will then know that they have to score more goals in the course of play, whether over one leg or two, if they are to win the tie. Extra-time should be played in the second leg or in any first replay.

In this way no individual would be identified as having lost the tie.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD A. BREESE,
Pine Crest,
Woodcock Hill,
Felbridge,
East Grinstead,
West Sussex.

Unofficially welcomed

From Mr Placidus Gunawardena

Sir, I am baffled at the failure of the Test and County Cricket Board to grant Sri Lanka a three-match Test series in England. If the TCCB's international programme is firmly established for ten years in advance (report, May 21) how on earth did it accommodate South Africa in 1994 when South Africa was only readmitted to international cricket in 1991?

Perhaps the TCCB did a crystal-gazing deal with Nelson Mandela when he was still in prison!

On behalf of all Sri Lankans in Britain, heartfelt congratulations to the Sri Lankan cricketers on their splendid performance in the World Cup and a very warm welcome to them on their unofficial visit to England next week — despite the weather.

Yours faithfully,
P. GUNAWARDENA,
9 Whitburn Road, SE13.

Hand in glove

From the Reverend David W. Hoskin

Sir, Dermot Reeve's strategy of flinging away the bat to avoid being caught out off the glove (report, May 21) suggests that cricketers might do well to dispense with the bat altogether when the bowling is slow enough. The ball could then be hit around the ground with impunity using only the gloved hand — provided, of course, the opposition do not appeal for handled the ball!

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HOSKIN,
St Mary's Vicarage,
Molescroft Road,
Beverley, East Yorkshire.

***Sports Letters may be sent* by fax to 0171-782 5211.**
They must include a daytime telephone number.

مكتبة الأهرام

Stereo Dancer's Serbian link sets puzzle as 34 remain in Derby

War horse awaits Epsom call to arms

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

MYSTERY yesterday surrounded the whereabouts of a horse left in the Derby who is believed to be in war-ravaged Serbia. Stereo Dancer, one of 34 entries remaining in the Epsom classic at yesterday's forfeit stage, was entered for the race as a yearling in 1994 when he was owned by Hamdan Al-Maktoum.

However, the Ed Dunlop-trained colt went to the sales last winter after finishing last in his only racecourse appearance and was sold to M. Ivanovic of Serbia. The three-year-old son of Groom Dancer was not taken out of the Derby at the first forfeit stage on March 5 — costing his owner £750 — and the failure to remove the horse from the race yesterday will cost a further £2,750.

Michael Stoute, the Newmarket trainer, yesterday announced that Dr Massini is back in full training for the Vodafone Derby at Epsom on June 8. "Dr Massini has resumed his Derby preparation," Stoute said.

Andrew Cooper, clerk of the course at Epsom, said yesterday: "Whether that money has been obtained or ever will be obtained is very much in doubt. We have no idea as to the whereabouts of the horse. For all we know he could be pulling a cart somewhere in deepest Serbia.

"We would be very surprised if he is confirmed a runner at the five-day stage on June 3. Until now owners or trainers have not had to do anything if they wanted to leave a horse in the race. But in Derby week they have to make a positive action by confirming an entry and paying a further £1,750."

The doubt surrounding the participation of Stereo Dancer has not stopped bookmakers pricing him up in their ante-post lists. William Hill offer 66-1 — apparently against him winning, not just turning up.

There were no shock withdrawals from the Derby yesterday, although among those taken out were Mons, Sacho and Silver Dome, who attracted ante-post support during the winter and spring. Four supplemented at a cost of £8,000 in March — Tagula, Spinning World, Bonarelli and Beauchamp King — were also scratched.

The field for the £850,000 race looks certain to be below the maximum of 30 — which will enable Alex Greaves to become the first woman to ride in the Derby. She has been booked to partner the 500-1 outsider, Portuguese Lil.

Michael Stoute is letting his horses do the talking as he recovers from a minor knee operation. Whitewater Affair overcame some of the worst weather seen at Goodwood for years to land the Tripleprint Lupe Stakes in convincing style from Shemozzle.

It will come as no surprise to learn that the winner of the final classic trial is not entered for the Oaks. She could be supplemented but is more likely to go for the Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Given the conditions at Goodwood, with the ground soon changing to soft, it would be rash to read too much into individual performances, but Faraway Waters beat only one home in the Lupe Stakes, having finished runner-up at Newmarket to Pricket, the short-priced Oaks favourite.

Everyone, with the possible exception of the bookmakers, loves to see a successful gamble and Mark Tompkins was almost singing in the rain after watching Poetry land the spoils in the opening Metsa-Serla Paperboard Maiden Fillies' Stakes, having been backed from 20-1 to 12-1.

"That was not totally unexpected," he said. "She's improving and has been leading our best fillies at home. Fortunately, the work watchers don't know where I take my horses — or they are not getting up in the mornings."

JULIAN HERBERT

Whitewater Affair makes her stamina tell with an impressive victory in the Tripleprint Lupe Stakes at a rain-sodden Goodwood yesterday

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SHARP REBUFF
(3.10 Goodwood)
Next best: Rocky Oasis
(4.45 Goodwood)

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.25 Questonia. 2.55 Fonzy. 3.25 Spartan Heartbeat. 3.55 Braveheart. 4.25 Winston. 5.00 Foist.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
2.30 QUESTONIA (nap). 3.25 Sadler's Realm.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.25 TYNEMOUTH MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,729: 1m 2f 32yd) (14 runners)

1	(6)	4	AMBASSADORI 10 C Brittain 9-0	J Weaver	71
2	(13)	00-0	BASHTHEBOARDS 17 J Quinn 9-0	S D Williams	56
3	(4)	00	CLASH OF SWORDS 10 P Calver 9-0	M Birch	–
4	(14)		MUKEED J Gosden 9-0	J Carroll	–
5	(11)	2	NAYIB 34 D Morley 9-0	B Thomson	73
6	(7)	3-24	SASURU 16 G Wragg 9-0	Paul Eddery	[illegible]
7	(12)		TIGER LAKE Saeed bin Suroor 9-0	K Darley	–
8	(2)	32-	ALTAMURA 217 J Gosden 8-9	A Garth	81
9	(3)	5	FIASCO 17 M Camacho 8-9	L Charnock	73
10	(8)		HEART M Stoute 8-9	K Fallon	–
11	(1)	-300	PHAR CLOSER 21 W Kemp 8-9	S Drowne (3)	–
12	(9)		QUESTONIA H Cecil 8-9	W Ryan	–
13	(10)	00	TROIKA 27 J Berry 8-9	P Roberts (5)	–
14	(5)	55	WHISPERED MELODY 23 P Harris 8-9	G Hind	79

5-2 Mukeed, 7-2 Sasuru, 4-1 Tiger Lake, Questonia, 5-1 Heart, Altamura, 7-1 Ambassadori, 10-1 Fiasco, 12-1 others

2.55 ANNITSFORD CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,577: 6f) (8)

1	(5)	0	GOING FOR BROKE 13 P Haslam 9-0	J Fortune	–
2	(3)	11	FONZY 5 (F,G) Mrs L Stubbs 8-10	J Weaver	[illegible]
3	(7)	3624	HELLO DOLLY 21 K Burke 8-9	Paul Eddery	84
4	(4)		HURGILL MINSTREL (V) J Watts 8-6	G Duffield	–
5	(8)	40	SILVER RAJ 49 (B) W Kemp 8-4	S Drowne (3)	–
6	(6)	4	ALISADARA 14 N Bycroft 8-3	G Hind	–
7	(2)	00	CLONAVON GIRL 17 M Camacho 7-13	L Charnock	74
8	(1)	0	KUDA 29 J Norton 7-11	Dale Gibson	–

5-4 Fonzy, 2-1 Hello Dolly, 3-1 Hurgill Minstrel, 5-1 Clonavon Girl, 25-1 Going For Broke, Kuda, 33-1 others

3.25 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE/JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £5,890: 1m 4f) (8)

1	(7)	34-1	FAATEQ 28 (F) J Dunlop 9-7	K Darley	97
2	(2)	15-3	PINE NEEDLE 28 (S) D Morley 9-3	B Thomson	96
3	(5)	52-0	TISSUE OF LIES 20 M Johnston 9-1	J Weaver	85
4	(4)	1-3	LADYKIRK 30 (G) J Watts 9-1	G Duffield	96
5	(1)	33-5	KARISMA 26 Denys Smith 9-0	J Fortune	90
6	(8)	6-02	SADLER'S REALM 12 M Stoute 8-12	Paul Eddery	[illegible]
7	(3)	0-33	SPARTAN HEARTBEAT 12 (B) C Brittain 8-12	W Ryan	98
8	(6)	304	LEDGENDRY LINE 17 Mrs M Reveley 8-7	A Culhane	98

4-1 Faateq, Sadler's Realm, 5-1 Karisma, Ladykirk, 11-2 Spartan Heartbeat, 6-1 Pine Needle, 8-1 others

☐ Forty-four entries have been received for the Darley July Cup at Newmarket on July 11.

3.55 CRAMLINGTON CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,063: 5f) (6)

1	(2)	4123	BRAVEHEART 3 (D,F) M Channon 9-1	K Darley	[illegible]
2	(6)	1	HULA PRINCE 10 (D,F) M Johnston 9-1	J Weaver	89
3	(4)	41	YOUNG BIGWIG 21 (D,G) J Berry 9-1	J Carroll	80
4	(1)	5	APICULATE 21 W Kemp 8-11	S Drowne (3)	–
5	(5)	441	LEGEND OF ARAGON 17 (CD,G) J Glover 8-10	G Duffield	84
6	(3)	21	SEASIDE 21 (D,S) John Berry 8-10	K Fallon	82

5-2 Braveheart, 3-1 Hula Prince, 7-2 Young Bigwig, Seaside, 9-2 Legend Of Aragon, 50-1 Apiculate

4.25 BOOKER CASH & CARRY HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,152: 1m) (18)

1	(13)	8-44	DUBAI COLLEGE 17 C Brittain 9-7	J Weaver	63
2	(5)	06-0	ENERGY MAN 43 M Dods 9-6	J Carroll	53
3	(17)	2P-6	RUSSIAN RASCAL 7 (C,G) T Easterby 9-3	M Birch	95
4	(14)	-513	WINSTON 17 (D,F) J Bethell 8-12	S Drowne (3)	98
5	(2)	2110	EBEN NAAS 15 (D,BF,G) S Williams 8-11	K Darley	94
6	(6)	6-00	ANY COLOUR 24 M Camacho 8-7	L Charnock	88
7	(10)	0-00	KERNOF 12 M Hammond 8-7	J Fortune	94
8	(12)	4-62	SANDBLASTER 13 Mrs J Ramsden 8-6	K Fallon	92
9	(8)	00-0	GENEROUS PRESENT 49 J Payne 8-4	B Thomson	85
10	(1)	4-20	CERISE 13 (B) W Elsey 8-3	P Fessey (5)	93
11	(3)	06-3	CRAIGMORE MAGIC 13 Miss M Milligan 8-2	J Fanning	85
12	(15)	00-4	ONE LIFE TO LIVE 43 A Harrison 8-2	T Williams	91
13	(9)	-026	OXGANG 57 J Fitzgerald 8-2	G Hind	90
14	(4)	0-00	GINGER HODGERS 10 (V) R Whitaker 8-2	Dale Gibson	82
15	(18)	0-00	ORIOLE 17 (F) N Tinkler 8-1	Kim Tinkler	[illegible]
16	(11)	0-06	LAWN ORDER 24 Mrs J Ramsden 8-1	J F Egan	92
17	(7)	-056	NORTHERN CLAN 13 (B) M W Easterby 7-10	D Wright (3)	94
18	(16)	00-6	BALLYKISSANGEL 24 N Bycroft 7-10	N Varley (3)	60

4-1 Sandblaster, 9-2 Winston, 5-1 Russian Rascal, 6-1 One Life To Live, 7-1 Eben Naas, 10-1 Generous Present, Dubai College, 12-1 others.

5.00 SEATON BURN HANDICAP (£3,648: 5f) (15)

1	(14)	35-0	DICTATION 21 J J O'Neill 4-10-0	J F Egan	88
2	(8)	0-00	COLWAY RAKE 17 (B,D,G,S) J Watts 5-9-12	N Connorton	90
3	(1)	0-00	NED'S BONANZA 6 (D,F,G) M Dods 7-9-10	J Carroll	89
4	(11)	2403	PLUM FIRST 6 (D,F,G,S) L Lloyd-James 6-9-6	J Fanning	95
5	(5)	4106	CAPTAIN CARAT 17 (D,BF,F,G) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-5	K Fallon	93
6	(15)	00-0	METAL BOYS 13 (D,F,G,S) Miss L Siddall 9-8-13	G Hind	87
7	(6)	00-0	INVIGILATE 29 (D,F,G) M Wane 7-8-6	D McKeown	91
8	(4)	0560	FEATHERSTONE LANE 35 (V,CD,F,G) Miss L Siddall 5-8-5	G Hind	86
9	(12)	4433	SONDERISE 13 (D,G,S) N Tinkler 7-8-5	J Fortune	94
10	(10)	5-00	ASTRAL'S CHANCE 17 K Burke 3-8-4	Paul Eddery	82
11	(2)	0-00	DOMINELLE 13 (D,F) T Easterby 4-8-4	M Birch	86
12	(9)	0303	PENNY'S WISHING 15 (G) N Bycroft 4-8-2	G Duffield	91
13	(7)	1115	FOIST 27 (BF,G) M W Easterby 4-8-2	Dale Gibson	[illegible]
14	(13)	0035	SALLYOREALLY 6 W Storey 5-7-11	N Kennedy	90
15	(3)	0000	RANKAIDADE 10 (D,S) E Weymes 5-7-10	Kim Tinkler	91

4-1 Foist, 5-1 Plum First, 11-2 Captain Carat, 6-1 Sonderise, Sallyoreally, 7-1 Penny's Wishing, 14-1 Dictation, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 13 winners from 38 runners, 34.2%; J Gosden, 7 from 21, 33.3%; J Glover, 3 from 9, 33.3%; J Dunlop, 11 from 36, 30.6%; M Stoute, 13 from 46, 28.3%; D Morley, 8 from 29, 27.6%.

JOCKEYS: S Drowne, 3 winners from 5 rides, 60.0%; J Weaver, 15 from 76, 19.7%; G Duffield, 18 from 92, 19.5%; G Hind, 5 from 29, 17.2%; N Connorton, 12 from 71, 16.9%; J Carroll, 20 from 125, 16.0%

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Goodwood

Going: good, straight course good to soft

2.10 (7f) 1. **POETRY** (P Robinson, 12-1); 2. **Pomona** (S Sanders, 50-1); 3. **Press On Nicky** (R Cochrane, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Fatefully. 5 Smooth Asset (4th). 7 Lubaba. 8 Emy Coasting. 14 Highland Rhapsody (5th), Kawanin. 20 Classic Look (6th). 33 Love And Kisses. 50 All Stand, Bella's Legacy, Mimosa, On The Home Run, Risking. 16 ran. ¾l, 3l, 2½l, 1½l, 1¾l. M Tompkins at Newmarket. Tote £12.00; £2.70, £15.00, £5.00. DF: £394.40. Trio not won (pool of £814.40 carried forward to 3.10 at Goodwood today). CSF: £430.80.

2.40 (6f) 1. **MONTSERRAT** (M Fenton, 5-1 jt-fav); 2. **Purple Fling** (J Quinn, 25-1); 3. **La Petite Fusee** (R Hughes, 5-1 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 5-1 jt-fav Twice As Sharp. 11-2 Charlie Sillett (6th). 8 Castlerea Lad. 9 Denbrae (4th). 10 How's Yer Father, Lennox Lewis (5th). 14 Lord Olivier. 20 Al Nufooth. 33 Shikari's Son. 50 Invocation. 13 ran. NR: Sweet Magic. ½l, ¾l, ¾l, sh hd, hd. L Cottrell at Cullompton. Tote: £6.00; £2.00, £6.00, £1.60. DF: £88.60. Trio: £72.80. CSF: £108.74. Tricast: £632.12.

3.10 (1m 2f) 1. **WHITEWATER AFFAIR** (R Cochrane, 4-1 fav, Richard Evans's nap and Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2. **Shemozzle** (Pat Eddery, 9-2); 3. **Papering** (M J Kinane, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Scarlet Plume (4th). 7 Alzabella (5th). 8 Faraway Waters, Silk Masque (6th). 16 Fag End. 25 Promissory. 9 ran. NR: Camporese. 1¾l, nk, 5l, 11l, hd. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £5.00; £1.80, £1.70, £2.20. DF: £11.00. Trio: £10.90. CSF: £21.40.

3.40 (1m 6f) 1. **PRUSSIAN BLUE** (W Ryan, 4-1); 2. **Backgammon** (J Reid, 6-1); 3. **Purple Splash** (T Quinn, 11-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Source Of Light (4th). 9-2 Better Offer (5th). 12 English Invader (6th). 8 ran. NR: Tudor Island. ¾l, hd, 3l, 9l, 7l. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £6.00; £2.60, £2.40. DF: £16.60. CSF: £24.40.

4.10 (1m) 1. **YOUNG BUTT** (M Henry, 33-1); 2. **Coureur** (J Quinn, 11-2); 3. **Thames Side** (A Eddery, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 3-1 fav Charlie Cheng (5th). 9-2 Chairmans Choice (4th). 8 Rakis. 9 Thatchmaster (6th). 10 Greatest. 12 No Cliches. 16 Night In A Million, Pistol. 25 Northern Grey. 12 ran. NR: Rocky Waters. Hd, 2½l, 5l, hd, 1½l. J Ffitch-Heyes at Lewes. Tote: £56.60; £10.70, £1.70, £5.70. DF: £181.50. Trio: £819.50 (part won; pool of £727.24 carried forward to 3.10 at Goodwood today). CSF: £192.30. Tricast: £2,827.65.

4.45 (1m 2f) 1. **COUNTRY LOVER** (Aimee Cook, 7-2); 2. **Asking For Kings** (A Daly, 5-1); 3. **Battleship Bruce** (Pat Eddery, 5-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Statajack (4th). 14 Yet Again. 20 Ela Agapi Mou (5th), Northern Spruce (6th). 33 Mannagar. 8 ran. NR: Westminster. 4l, 3½l, 5l, 7l, 9l. Lord Huntingdon at West Ilsley. Tote: £4.80; £1.60, £1.80, £1.20. DF: £9.50. Trio: £12.00. CSF: £19.34.

5.20 (6f) 1. **FALKENHAM** (T Quinn, 4-1); 2. **Latin Master** (R Hughes, 9-2); 3. **Strathmore Clear** (Pat Eddery, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Generous Gift. 13-2 Ikalania (4th). 10 Spaniards Inn. 12 Goodwood Lass (6th). 16 Mister Pink (5th). 20 Chakra. 9 ran. NR: Castles Burning. 1l, 3l, ½l, 1l, 1¾l. P Cole at Whatcombe. Tote: £6.50; £2.80, £1.60, £2.60. DF: £15.00. Trio: £20.00. CSF: £22.63.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £6,881.51 carried forward to Goodwood today).

Placepot: £1,412.00. Quadpot: £21.80.

Worcester

Going: good

2.25 (2m hdle) 1. **MIM-LOU-AND** (Mr J Culloty, 6-4 fav); 2. **Red Light** (S Fox, 33-1); 3. **Hamilton Silk** (D Bridgwater, 7-4). ALSO RAN: 3 Spumante (4th). 16 Best Of Bold, Oakbury (5th). 66 Against The Clock (6th). 100 Frankie Harry (pu). 8 ran. 5l, 3l, nk, 8l, ¾l. Miss H Knight at Wantage. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £5.30, £1.10. DF: £20.30. CSF: £38.01.

2.55 (2m 4f hdle) 1. **TAP ON TOOTSIE** (R Massey, 7-1); 2. **Dajraan** (C Llewellyn, 9-1); 3. **Winter Rose** (B Powell, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 6-5 fav Wassl Street (4th). 12 Cardinal Rule (pu), Whistling Buck (pu). 14 Little Tincture (5th). 16 Clock Watchers (6th), Dubelle (pu). 33 Bank Place (pu), Leap In The Dark. 11 ran. 1¾l, 9l, 15l, 2½l, 25l. T Wall at Church Stretton. Tote: £7.70; £1.20, £2.90, £3.00. DF: £32.50. Trio: £48.10. CSF: £61.73. Tricast: £570.43.

3.25 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1. **WISE APPROACH** (S McNeill, 7-1); 2. **Muskora** (R Dunwoody, 11-2 fav); 3. **Pontynyswen** (D J Burchell, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Black Church (pu). 7 Bally Parson (pu), Crosula (f). 15-2 Tudor Fable (pu). 8 Who's To Say (4th). 12 Salleah (pu). 25 Monday Club (pu). 33 OK Corral (5th). 11 ran. ¾l, 8l, 19l, dist. F Bailey at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £10.20; £1.90, £2.10, £2.40. DF: £22.70. Trio: £26.40. CSF: £41.96. Tricast: £257.28.

3.55 (2m hdle) 1. **HANDY LASS** (T J Murphy, 12-1); 2. **Phalarope** (A S Smith, 13-2); 3. **Zahid** (R Johnson, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav Courageous Knight (f). 15-2 Chris's Glen. 8 Secretary Of State. 12 Java Shrine, Lady Confess (4th). 16 Stapleford Lady (5th), The Executor (6th), Will James (f). 11 ran. 2l, ½l, 7l, 12l, ½l. J Smith at Hednesford. Tote: £14.40; £2.40, £3.40, £2.10. DF: £40.30. Trio: £59.80. CSF: £87.14. Tricast: £565.42.

4.25 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1. **RICH LIFE** (M Richards, 6-1); 2. **Merivel** (D O'Sullivan, 8-11); 3. **Real Glee** (J A McCarthy, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Pontoon Bridge (f). 7 Ruby Vision (f). 33 Luke Warm (5th). 100 April Cruise (f), Ballyranebow (pu), Ennistymon (4th), Shameless Lady (6th), Sweet Buck (pu). 11 ran. NR: Bentley Manor. 5l, 1l, 7l, 4l, 18l. C Weedon at Chiddingfold. Tote: £7.70; £1.90, £3.20, £2.30. DF: £36.40. Trio: £71.50. CSF: £44.89.

5.00 (2m flat race) 1. **PRINCEFUL** (R Farrant, 9-2 jt-fav); 2. **Quick Bowler** (R Johnson, 6-1); 3. **Sammorello** (D Walsh, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 jt-fav Classic Chat (6th). 5 Lumo. 15-2 Clinking (5th). 10 Buffs Boy (4th). 12 Lancastrian Jet, Mesp. 14 Guido. 33 True Rhyme. 50 Barton Bulldozer, Calling The Tune, Carnival Clown, Chantry Lad (pu), Tiger Bee. 16 ran. 12l, 1½l, ½l, 9l. Mrs J Pitman at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £5.30; £2.30, £2.30, £3.90. DF: £10.50. Trio: £96.50. CSF: £31.56.

5.30 (2m flat race) 1. **FRIENDSHIP** (T Hagger, 4-1); 2. **Buckheart** (A Thornton, 7-1); 3. **Spring Double** (C Llewellyn, 3-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Mythical Approach (4th). 6 Teluk. 8 Forbidden Waters, Sol Music (5th). 20 Aws Contracts, Piper's Rock. 33 Duke Of Lee (6th), Keepittoyourself, Rajadora, Rum Customer (ur), Southerncrosspatch, Warno. 50 Rosanda. 16 ran. 3½l, nk, 4l, 6l, nk. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £8.70; £3.20, £3.40, £1.80. DF: £45.30. Trio: £64.00. CSF: £36.34.

Placepot: £225.40. Quadpot: £40.50.

RAPID RACELINE
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
GOODWOOD 101 201
NEWCASTLE 102 202
UTTOXETER 103 203
EXETER 104 204
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

EXETER

THUNDERER

6.15 Peter Monamy. 6.45 Sydney Barry. 7.15 Madame President. 7.45 Tour Leader. 8.15 Akiymann. 8.45 Distant Memory.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

6.15 JAMAR LOGISTICS AND A F FREIGHT SELLING HURDLE (£1,863: 2m 2f) (11 runners)

1	121	PETER MONAMY 5 (C,F) M Pipe 4-11-7	D Bridgwater
2	0560	COOCHIE 15 (F) P Salter 7-11-1	B Powell
3	4P04	TIME TO MOVE 64 P Jones 6-11-1	Miss E J Jones (7)
4	P0	COUNTRY GENT 16 P Lucken 5-11-0	M Richards
5	630F	HIGH POST 22 G Ham 7-11-0	S Burrough
6	-P40	KUTAN 15 Mrs B Waring 6-11-0	E Byrne
7	P0P6	MONSIEUR BROOKS 22 R Stronge 6-11-0	R Stronge
8	3250	BECKY BOO 26 D Burchell 6-10-9	D J Burchell
9	0040	NOBBY NORTH 13 G Thorner 4-10-9	L Harvey
10	05	ON MY TOES 5 R Frost 5-10-9	J Frost
11	03-F	SKELTON PRINCESS 52 Miss L Wickenden 5-10-9	J Harris (7)

4-6 Peter Monamy, 4-1 Becky Boo, 6-1 High Post, 8-1 Kutan, 12-1 Nobby North, 16-1 Skelton Princess, 20-1 others

6.45 SIMPKINS EDWARDS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,853: 2m 3f 110yd) (10)

1	1403	RAMSTAR 28 (F,S) P Hobbs 8-11-10	A P McCoy
2	-6F4	SYDNEY BARRY 13 (CD,F,G) R Buckler 11-11-10	B Powell
3	1242	MINE'S AN ACE 5 (C,F,G,S) Miss V Williams 9-11-5	R Greene
4	4242	JAILBREAKER 22 (B,G,S) B Millman 9-11-4	D Salter (5)
5	2432	ABAVARD 27 (S) R Frost 7-11-3	J Frost
6	3031	CHANNEL PASTIME 27 (G) D Burchell 12-11-2	D J Burchell
7	2204	HENLEY REGATTA 269 (CD,F) P Rodford 8-10-13	S Burrough
8	4224	EVENING RAIN 27 (D,F,G,S) R Hodges 10-10-0	T Dascombe (3)
9	0003	MAGGOTS GREEN 19 (C,D,F,S) J Bradley 9-10-0	S Wynne
10	0PP0	GABISH 9 (F,G) B Scriven 11-10-0	Mr R Thornton (7)

7-2 Ramstar, 4-1 Channel Pastime, 5-1 Mine's An Ace, 6-1 Jailbreaker, 7-1 Abavard, 8-1 Evening Rain, 10-1 Sydney Barry, 12-1 Maggots Green, 14-1 others

7.15 BROWN & SHIPLEY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,306: 2m 3f 110yd) (9)

1	UUP4	JAY EM ESS 67P D Barons 7-11-13	R Greene
2	3336	VALIANT TOSKI 20 (S) M Pipe 5-11-10	D Bridgwater
3	610	MADAME PRESIDENT 13 (F) C Nash 5-11-4	A P McCoy
4	2206	SUPERMICK 23 (S) W Muir 5-11-3	M Richards
5	0245	LAURA LYE 19 B De Haan 6-10-11	J Railton
6	46F2	URBAN LILY 20 (B) R Hodges 6-10-1	J Harris (7)
7	0PF	BINGHAM'S NANNY 17 (B) R Alner 6-10-0	J R Kavanagh
8	SPPP	ORCHESTRAL DESIGNS 120F G Ham 5-10-0	S Burrough
9	P-05	FRAGRANCE MOUNTAIN 17 R Baker 10-10-0	B Powell

11-4 Supermick, 7-2 Laura Lye, 4-1 Valiant Toski, 5-1 Urban Lily, 7-1 Madame President, 16-1 Jay Em Ess, 20-1 others

7.45 BROWN & SHIPLEY NOVICES CHASE
(£3,046: 2m 7f 110yd) (11)

1	5112	EVANGELICA 10 (BF,F,S) M Pipe 6-11-13	D Bridgwater
2	3421	MAREMMA GALE 16 (B,F) N Mitchell 8-11-11	A P McCoy
3	-0P0	ARTFUL ARTHUR 15 (G) L Grassick 10-11-4	Mr J Grassick
4	6353	BUZZ O'THE CROWD 22 (S) Mrs C Handel 9-11-4	Mr J Creighton (7)
5	64PP	CARROT BAY 12 (F,S) M Ogle 10-11-4	R Davis
6	4004	CHINAMAN 17 (F) J Mullins 7-11-4	R Greene
7	6406	RAGGERTY 16 (S) Miss K Whitehouse 6-11-4	C Llewellyn
8		SAXON BLADE R Stronge 8-11-4	W McFarland
9	56PP	SEA SCAMP 12 (G) D Minty 8-11-4	Mr I Dowrick
10	1005	TOUR LEADER 12 (F,G) R Buckler 7-11-4	B Powell
11	5642	TRUST DEED 9 (B,F,G) S Knight 8-11-4	G Upton

6-4 Evangelica, 5-2 Maremma Gale, 6-1 Tour Leader, 8-1 Chinaman, Saxon Blade, 10-1 Trust Deed, 12-1 Buzz O'The Crowd, 20-1 others

8.15 JAMAR LINER AGENCIES NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,316: 3m 2f) (13)

1	1150	HAILE DERRING 26 (D,S) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-11	C Llewellyn
2	4P03	PHILATELIC 16 R Alner 5-11-7	J R Kavanagh
3	0023	WYNBERG 27 (F) T Forster 5-11-7	S Wynne
4	2300	AKIYMANN 6 M Pipe 6-11-4	D Bridgwater
5	P556	WRECKLESS MAN 10 (B,F,G,S) J Old 9-11-1	G Upton
6	2131	ITS GRAND 20 (S) J Bradley 7-10-5	A P McCoy
7	-PPP	GOT TO BE JOKING 16 Mrs J Retter 8-10-0	R Davis
8	P2UP	PALACE PARADE 9 G Ham 6-10-0	Chris Webb (5)
9	3060	MU-TADIL 40 R Baker 4-10-0	B Powell
10	0FFP	EMBLEY BUOY 19 (S) J Mullins 8-10-0	S Curran
11	54P0	PENNANT COTTAGE 16 (V,S) Miss K Whitehouse 8-10-0	D Walsh (3)
12	6000	VERRO 5 K Bishop 9-10-0	L Harvey
13	05P6	MANOR BOUND 17 (F) Mrs S Williams 6-10-0	T Dascombe (3)

11-4 Its Grand, 7-2 Wynberg, 9-2 Akiymann, 6-1 Philatelic, Haile Derring, 8-1 Wreckless Man, 12-1 Palace Parade, 14-1 others

8.45 SIMPKINS EDWARDS HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,788: 2m 3f 110yd) (9)

1	12UF	DISTANT MEMORY 12 (B,CD,F,G) P Hobbs 7-12-0	A P McCoy
2	1PP2	SECRET FOUR 9 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Williams 10-11-13	T Dascombe (3)
3	2P36	HABASHA 12 (V,G,S) M Pipe 6-11-1	D Bridgwater
4	0030	SABAKI RIVER 22 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 12-10-13	R Davis
5	0023	DREAM HERE 16 J Fox 8-10-10	S Fox
6	3344	SILVER STANDARD 17 (B,G,S) T Forster 6-10-9	S Wynne
7	4006	SEVSO 16 (S) R Baker 7-10-8	B Powell
8	3031	RAMALLAH 22 (CD,G,S) J White 7-10-6	R Greene
9	0004	MISS SOUTER 15 (V,F,S) H Howe 7-10-0	C Llewellyn

3-1 Secret Four, 4-1 Ramallah, 9-2 Dream Here, 5-1 Distant Memory, Sevso, 8-1 Silver Standard, 10-1 Habasha, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 91 winners from 292 runners, 31.2%; J White, 7 from 33, 21.2%; P Hobbs, 25 from 135, 18.5%; Mrs J Retter, 14 from 88, 15.9%; R Alner, 8 from 54, 14.8%; B Millman, 5 from 36, 13.9%.

JOCKEYS: D Bridgwater, 16 winners from 83 rides, 19.3%; A P McCoy, 10 from 59, 16.9%; L Harvey, 9 from 62, 14.5%; J Railton, 4 from 30, 13.3%; G Upton, 7 from 69, 10.1%; J Frost, 14 from 140, 10.0%.

Blinkered first time

EXETER: 7.15 Bingham's Nanny, 8.15 Pennant Cottage, 8.45 Habasha. GOODWOOD: 4.10 Beeny, 5.20 Distant Dynasty. NEWCASTLE: 2.55 Hurgill Minstrel, Silver Raj, 3.25 Spartan Heartbeat, 4.25 Ginger Hodgers, Northern Clan. UTTOXETER: 6.30 Lime Street Blues, 8.00 Robero

UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

6.30 Shannon Lad. 7.00 Stormtracker. 7.30 Wrekengale. 8.00 Swiss Mountain. 8.30 Dino Malta. 9.00 Exterior Profiles.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

6.30 HIGHLAND PARK MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,358: 2m) (16 runners)

1	00	BLANCHLAND 7F P Ritchens 7-11-5	C Maude
2	0-P0	CHUCKLES 13 Miss D Smith 6-11-5	Mr K Green
3	-064	FELDSPAR 22 (S) J Edwards 7-11-5	M Dwyer
4	U3P	LAC DE GRAS 238 R Curtis 5-11-5	D Morris
5	P05-	LIME STREET BLUES 395 (B) S Christian 5-11-5	S McNeill
6	PP05	ROYAL HAND 28 M Madgwick 6-11-5	B Fenton (3)
7	4/02	SEARCHLIGHT 12 (G) T Watson 8-11-5	O Pears
8	03FP	SHANNON LAD 12 A Carroll 6-11-5	M Brennan
9	0	THE FENCE SHRINKER 10 D McCain 5-11-5	D McCain
10	65	CAVIL 19 W Clay 4-11-0	Guy Lewis (3)
11	10	DARING HEN 214 (BF,F) K Bailey 6-11-0	J A McCarthy
12	6-0	ETHEL'S DREAM 17 Miss H Knight 6-11-0	Mr J Culloty (3)
13	5-00	LOTHIAN JEM 15 J Wharton 7-11-0	B Dalton
14	000	MR CHRISTIE 6F Miss L Siddall 4-11-0	A Thornton
15	0-55	NANDURA 342 Miss A Embiricos 5-11-0	J Ryan
16	0/PP	THE SECRET SEVEN 19 J Cresswell 6-11-0	R Massey (5)

3-1 Feldspar, 5-1 Searchlight, 6-1 Lime Street Blues, 7-1 Daring Hen, 8-1 Shannon Lad, 10-1 Ethel's Dream, 12-1 Royal Hand, 14-1 others.

7.00 BUNNAHABHAIN NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,941: 3m 110yd) (9)

1	1362	STORMTRACKER 26 (D,F) C Weedon 7-11-10	B Fenton (3)
2	SPUF	PERCY THROWER 17 (G,S) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-2	T Jenks
3	1210	BALLINDOO 44 (D,F) T Donnelly 7-10-12	Mr R Armson
4	0446	AUNTIE ALICE 19 J Fitzgerald 6-10-8	M Dwyer
5	3631	CROMABOO CROWN 13 (G) P Bevan 5-10-7	W Worthington
6	000F	AH THERE YOU ARE 6 K Bailey 7-10-4	T J Murphy (3)
7	4464	SAXON MAGIC 8 (F,S) J Bennett 6-10-3	Sophie Mitchell (5)
8	UP00	ABDUL EMIR 40 (G) T Watson 9-10-0	O Pears
9	D0U4	SOANAURA 12 P Wegmann 6-10-0	T Eley

9-4 Stormtracker, 4-1 Cromaboo Crown, 5-1 Saxon Magic, 6-1 Percy Thrower, 10-1 Ballindoo, 12-1 Auntie Alice, Ah There You Are, 14-1 others

7.30 FAMOUS GROUSE HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,429: 3m 2f) (6)

1	4332	SYNDERBOROUGH LAD 7 (C,F,G) S Pike 10-11-10	A Thornton
2	FUR6	BANKROLL 16 (F,G) P Hobbs 9-11-6	C Maude
3	PP43	FAR SENIOR 12 (D,F,G) P Wegmann 10-11-5	T Eley
4	0541	DIAMOND FORT 20 (D,F,G,S) J McConnochie 11-11-1	S McNeill
5	23P2	FROZEN DROP 16 (D,F,G) P Ritchens 9-10-5	Mr J Culloty (3)
6	0111	WREKENGALE 23 (C,F,G) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-3	R Dunwoody

6-4 Wrekengale, 5-2 Synderborough Lad, 3-1 Diamond Fort, 8-1 Far Senior, 12-1 Frozen Drop, 16-1 Bankroll

8.00 BLACK BOTTLE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,889: 2m) (15)

1	503F	ROBERO 6 (B) Mrs J Pitman 5-12-0	K Brown (5)
2	2542	KALZARI 17 (D,BF,G) A Carroll 11-11-11	D Finnegan (5)
3	533	CLEAN EDGE 45 (BF) M Tompkins 4-11-10	K Gaule
4	31P5	VIAGGIO 17 (V,D,G,S) W Clay 8-11-9	Guy Lewis
5	-000	MOYMET 27 (D,F) J King 10-11-8	B Harding
6	-0P4	BUD'S BET 14 (D,F) Miss J Craze 8-11-4	R Johnson
7	046U	GREENWAY LADY 26 (D,G) Miss A Embiricos 4-11-3	L Aspell
8	P/24	MASON DIXON 10 J Pickering 7-10-13	A Larnach
9	30F5	SHANAKEE 20 (F) B Llewellyn 9-10-12	A Procter
10	0006	SWISS MOUNTAIN 38 P Bevan 6-10-8	T J Murphy
11	P/5-	IRISH TAN 493 M Madgwick 9-10-6	B Fenton
12	0/P0	TIBBS INN 8 D Brennan 7-10-2	W Walsh (5)
13	PPSU	NEVER SO LOST 18P (B) P Hiatt 6-10-0	E Husband
14	FP00	STATION EXPRESS 20 (D,F,G) B Llewellyn 8-10-0	Sophie Mitchell
15	3P00	QUICK DECISION 13 J Cresswell 5-10-0	R Massey

3-1 Robero, 5-1 Bud's Bet, 6-1 Kalzari, 8-1 Mason Dixon, Shanakee, 10-1 Clean Edge, 12-1 others

8.30 MACALLAN NOVICES CHASE
(£3,518: 2m 5f) (7)

1	-6P1	FACTOR TEN 12 (F,G) Miss H Knight 8-11-8	J F Titley
2	F3RP	COUNTRYWIDE LAD 17P M Madgwick 7-11-0	B Fenton
3	6003	ERLEMO 44 (V,S) W Clay 7-11-0	Guy Lewis
4	35U2	FLIMSY TRUTH 8 (G) M Weston 10-11-0	Mr M Harris
5	26-5	STORM WARRIOR 17 (B,G) T Wall 11-11-0	R Massey
6	-036	WALLS COURT 19 J Birkett 9-11-0	L O'Hara
7	4062	DINO MALTA 12 (S) D Nicholson 5-10-7	R Johnson

6-4 Factor Ten, 11-4 Dino Malta, 7-2 Flimsy Truth, 8-1 Erlemo, 16-1 Countrywide Lad, Storm Warrior, 20-1 Walls Court

9.00 FAMOUS GROUSE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,871: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1	50F3	EXTERIOR PROFILES 23 (F,G) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-7	C Maude
2	F221	JUBRAN 7 (D,F) J Dodds 10-11-7	R Guest
3	0134	JAUNTY JUNE 17 (CD,F) B Eckley 5-11-2	D Finnegan (7)
4	0-0R	BROOMHILL BOY 8 Mrs J Pitman 7-11-0	R Farrant
5	0	LASTOFTHEIDIOTS 44 T Wall 7-11-0	R Massey (5)
6	00	MAN-OF-THE-WORLD 71 K Bailey 6-11-0	A Thornton
7	P3	POT BLACKBIRD 19 R Lee 7-10-9	R Johnson

5-4 Exterior Profiles, 5-2 Jubran, 7-2 Jaunty June, 12-1 Pot Blackbird, 20-1 Man-Of-The-World, Broomhill Boy, 25-1 Lastoftheidiots.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

UTTOXETER: Trainers: M Tompkins, 6 winners from 23 runners, 26.1%; K Bailey, 25 from 103, 24.3%; J Fitzgerald, 9 from 38, 23.7%; O Brennan, 6 from 29, 20.7%; D Nicholson, 16 from 79, 20.3%; S Christian, 3 from 16, 18.8%; N Twiston-Davies, 18 from 100, 18.0%. Jockeys: J Titley, 5 winners from 22 rides, 22.7%; R Dunwoody, 38 from 169, 22.5%; S McNeill, 12 from 56, 21.4%; J A McCarthy, 5 from 26, 19.2%; M Dwyer, 7 from 55, 12.7%; T Eley, 15 from 135, 11.1%; R Johnson, 4 from 40, 10.0%.

GOODWOOD: Trainers: Mrs J Cecil, 5 winners from 21 runners, 23.8%; M Stoute, 18 from 77, 23.4%; B Hanbury, 7 from 36, 19.4%; H Cecil, 14 from 74, 18.9%; J Gosden, 20 from 108, 18.5%; J White, 3 from 17, 17.6%; P Cole, 19 from 109, 17.4%; Lady Herries, 7 from 41, 17.1%. Jockeys: R Hughes, 7 winners from 33 rides, 21.2%; Dane O'Neill, 5 from 26, 19.2%; M Hills, 19 from 103, 18.4%; J Reid, 35 from 214, 16.4%; R Cochrane, 22 from 143, 15.4%; L Dettori, 26 from 171, 15.2%; M Baird, 3 from 20, 15.0%.

GOODWOOD

THUNDERER

2.10 Natalia Bay
2.40 Bit On The Side
3.10 Courageous Dancer
3.40 WIJARA (nap)
4.10 Ortolan
4.45 Rocky Oasis
5.20 Tinker Osmaston

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.10 STAR TALENT.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.10 Courageous Dancer.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.10 ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT FILLIES CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,710: 6f) (6 runners)

101	(4)	1	NATALIA BAY 10 (F) (P Blacker Studio Partnership) P Cole 8-12	T Quinn	[illegible]
102	(1)	2312	WAIT FOR ROSIE 3 (F) (Four Seasons Racing Ltd) M Channon 8-10	R Hughes	91
103	(6)	1	HIL RHAPSODY 26 (G) (A Rhead) B Palling 8-8	T Sprake	90
104	(2)	62	WHIZZ KID 10 (J Bridger) J Bridger 8-8	Darren Moffatt (3)	78
105	(3)		NAKED POSER (P Winfield) R Hannon 8-4	Dane O'Neill (3)	–
106	(5)		REUNION (Highclere Thoroughbred Racing) J Hills 8-4	M Hills	–

BETTING: 6-4 Natalia Bay, 2-1 Hil Rhapsody, 5-1 Wait For Rosie, 6-1 Naked Poser, 8-1 Whizz Kid, 12-1 Reunion.

1995: FLYING SQUAW 8-10 R Hughes (2-1) M Channon 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

NATALIA BAY beat Bravebeart 1¾l in 5-runner conditions race at Windsor (5f, good). WAIT FOR ROSIE 3½l 2nd of 4 to Petite Danseuse in conditions race at Windsor (5f, good). HIL RHAPSODY beat Lucayan Beach 1¾l in 10-runner maiden auction at Leicester (5f, good). WHIZZ KID 2½l 2nd of 10 to Just Visiting in maiden auction at Southwell (AW, 5f). NAKED POSER (foaled Apr 3, cost 15,000gns): Half-sister by Night Shift to three winners, including Happy Tycoon, minor winner over 5f at two years last season.
Selection: HIL RHAPSODY

2.40 PULLMAN FOODS HANDICAP (£7,505: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

201	(8)	0420-12	TAIPAN 18 (D,G,S) (Lord Swaythling) J Dunlop 4-10-0	L Dettori	93
202	(10)	1006-10	LOMBARDIC 18 (D,F,G) (Buruspmit) Mrs J Cecil 5-9-10	J Reid	95
203	(6)	03400-1	ROYAL SCIMITAR 12 (D,F,G) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 4-9-8	T Quinn	91
204	(5)	40-4361	BARDON HILL BOY 12 (F,G) (Ms M Breslin) B Hanbury 4-9-0	J Stack (3)	94
205	(7)	41600-1	BIT ON THE SIDE 40 (D,G,S) (M Hawkett) N Berry 7-8-13	A Eddery (7)	94
206	(3)	243155	PROGRESSION 9 (B,CD,F,G,S) (A Gome) C Murray 5-8-11	M Baird (5)	91
207	(1)	11-2330	OPERA BUFF 15 (D,F,G,S) (B Tregurtha) Miss G Kelleway 5-8-1	B Doyle	98
208	(4)	260-424	FIGHTING TIMES 16 (J Graves) C Smith 4-7-13	J Quinn	[illegible]
209	(2)	044-600	CHATHAM ISLAND 26 (D,F,G) (B Veal) C Brittain 8-7-12	M Henry (5)	90
210	(9)	0500/0-0	SUMMERHILL SPECIAL 17 (F) (Mrs N Duffield) Mrs P Duffield 5-7-11	G Bardwell	93

BETTING: 7-2 Taipan, 4-1 Royal Scimitar, 5-1 Bardon Hill Boy, 6-1 Opera Buff, 8-1 Bit On The Side, Progression, 10-1 Fighting Times, 12-1 others

1995: SON OF SHARP SHOT 5-9-5 Pat Eddery (13-8 fav) J Dunlop 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

TAIPAN 1l 2nd of 12 to Beauchamp Jade in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm) with PROGRESSION (3lb better off) 4½l 5th and LOMBARDIC (3lb better off) 20l 11th. Earlier dead-heated with LOMBARDIC (2lb better off) in 7-runner handicap at Haydock (1m 4f, good). ROYAL SCIMITAR beat Charter 8l in 3-runner conditions race at Bath (1m 3f 144yd, good to firm). BARDON HILL BOY beat Zermatt 1¾l in 9-runner handicap at Bath (1m 3f, good to firm). BIT ON THE SIDE beat Swallows Dream 1¾l in 15-runner handicap at Warwick (1m 3f, good to soft). PROGRESSION best recent effort beat Speed To Lead 2l in 15-runner handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm) with OPERA BUFF (7lb better off) 1¾l 3rd. FIGHTING TIMES 3l 4th of 15 to Hayaain Ya Kalaah in handicap at Doncaster (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: OPERA BUFF

3.10 KIDSONS IMPEY TROPHY HANDICAP (£8,850: 7f) (13 runners)

301	(6)	45024-3	COURAGEOUS DANCER 6 (D,G) (A Ali) B Hanbury 4-10-0	J Stack (3)	86
302	(3)	0030-10	MY BEST VALENTINE 5 (D,F,G) (The Valentines) J White 6-9-12	A Whelan (3)	90
303	(4)	301523	STAR TALENT 2 (C,D,F,G,S) (Miss J Crowley) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-9	R Cochrane	[illegible]
304	(2)	000305	ERTLON 13 (D,F,G) (C Brittain) C Brittain 6-9-7	B Doyle	90
305	(10)	15030-0	SEA THUNDER 24 (G) (Greenfield Stud) I Balding 4-9-4	M Hills	89
306	(1)	4431-45	DOUBLE MATT 12 (F) (A Merritt) R Hannon 4-9-2	Dane O'Neill (3)	91
307	(9)	014-320	JO MAXIMUS 22 (D,F,G) (J & S Kelly) S Dow 4-9-2	A Daly (5)	94
308	(7)	15300-5	SHARP REBUFF 22 (D,G) (D Aheer) P Makin 5-9-2	L Dettori	94
309	(11)	35050-0	CAPTAIN'S DAY 40 (D,F,G) (T Dawn) T Mills 4-9-2	Mark Lynch	90
310	(8)	643653	ORANGE PLACE 3 (D,G,S) (G Archer) T Naughton 5-8-11	T Quinn	91
311	(5)	0-02040	STOPPES BROW 14 (V,CD,F,G) (C Pennock) G L Moore 4-8-11	S Whitworth	92
312	(12)	000-000	KNOBBLEENEEZE 19 (V,CD,F,G,S) (A Andrews) M Channon 6-8-10	R Hughes	94
313	(13)	00-0000	DAWALIB 14 (D,F,G) (Jack Brown (Bookmaker)) D Haydn Jones 6-8-3	W Carson	92

BETTING: 4-1 Courageous Dancer, 6-1 Sharp Rebuff, Star Talent, 7-1 Double Matt, 8-1 My Best Valentine, 10-1 Sea Thunder, Ertlon, 12-1 others

1995: SILENT EXPRESSION 5-8-11 Pat Eddery (7-1) E Weymes 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

COURAGEOUS DANCER 6l 3rd of 6 to Saseedo in Newmarket handicap (7f, good). MY BEST VALENTINE beat JO MAXIMUS (1lb better off) neck in 8-runner handicap at Brighton (7f, firm) with ERTLON (1lb better off) head 3rd and ORANGE PLACE (1lb better off) 7¾l 6th. STAR TALENT 2¾l 3rd of 11 to Hugwity in handicap here (7f, good). Earlier 2½l 2nd of 15 to I'm Your Lady in Thirsk handicap (7f, good to firm) with KNOBBLEENEEZE (3lb better off) 9¾l 12th. DOUBLE MATT 7¾l 5th of 10 to Heuwes in Lingfield handicap (7f, good to firm). SHARP REBUFF 4l 5th of 24 to Yeast in Ascot handicap (7f, good to firm) with JO MAXIMUS 7l 10th. DAWALIB ([illegible] better off) 3l 15th and ERTLON 13l 24th. STOPPES BROW 1l 4th of 20 to King Parrot in Sandown apprentices handicap (7f, good to firm) penultimate start.
Selection: STAR TALENT

3.40 FESTIVAL STAKES (Listed race: £15,270: 1m 2f) (10 runners)

401	(8)	21562-0	PRINCE ARTHUR 26 (G) (M Tabor) P Chapple-Hyam 4-9-7	J Reid	92
402	(2)	343126-	FAHAL 222 (C,D,F,G) (H Al-Maktoum) D Morley 4-9-4	W Carson	[illegible]
403	(5)	260-005	LEAR WHITE 26 (S) (General Horse Advertising SPL) P Kelleway 5-9-4	L Dettori	92
404	(4)	2220-35	CAPTAIN HORATIUS 25 (D,F,G,S) (D Hanmer) J Dunlop 7-9-1	T Quinn	98
405	(7)	20120-4	MIDNIGHT LEGEND 20 (C,F,G) (Umm Qarn Racing) L Cumani 5-9-1	NON-RUNNER	–
406	(10)	20504-0	MARALINGA 26 (D,G) (D & Mrs J Oliver) Lady Herries 4-8-12	R Cochrane	90
407	(3)	25F111/	OTTO E MEZZO 578 (F,S) (J & J Cook) M Polglase 4-8-12	D Harrison	–
408	(9)	413-204	WIJARA 22 (G,S) (M Sohail) R Hannon 4-8-12	R Hughes	96
409	(1)	34000-0	MUSETTA 45 (D,F,S) (B Veal) C Brittain 4-8-10	B Doyle	96
410	(6)	0120/	MAIDMENT 555 (D,G) (Mrs B Chenoweth) Lady Herries 5-8-7	M Hills	–

BETTING: 3-1 Fahal, 7-2 Captain Horatius, 9-2 Prince Arthur, 7-1 Wijara, 8-1 Maralinga, 10-1 Musetta, 12-1 Lear White, 14-1 others

1995: BARON FERDINAND 5-8-12 Pat Eddery (10-11 fav) R Charlton 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

FAHAL 1½l 2nd of 8 to Tinarus in group III Select Stakes over course and distance (good) penultimate start last term. LEAR WHITE 4½l 5th of 11 to Singspiel in group III TGI Friday's Gordon Richards Stakes at Sandown (1m 2f, good) with PRINCE ARTHUR (1lb better off) 4½l 8th and MARALINGA (3lb better off) 3l 9th. CAPTAIN HORATIUS 7¾l 5th of 7 to Tarhelm in listed race at San Siro, Milan (1m 2f, yielding). WIJARA about 1¾l 4th of 8 to Tacoma in conditions race at Ascot (1m, good to firm).
Selection: FAHAL (nap)

4.10 RACING CHANNEL CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,164: 6f) (11 runners)

501	(4)	213-6	ORTOLAN 6 (F) (J Lazzari) R Hannon 9-2	Dane O'Neill (3)	[illegible]
502	(2)	335	DEPICTION 19 (Matthews Breeding and Racing) R Guest 8-8	L Dettori	94
503	(5)	3333-05	LIONEL EDWARDS 6 (R Green (Fine Paintings)) P Cole 8-8	T Quinn	85
504	(3)	20	GORMIRE 13 (N Hetherton) J Hetherton 8-6	R Cochrane	86
505	(6)	55-053	RED TIME 14 (P Fynn) M Saunders 8-6	R Price	82
506	(8)	000-0	DANCING MAN 18 (Miss L Martin) Mrs M Long 8-4	N Adams	–
507	(1)	030-500	BEENY 23 (V,G) (J Rogers) A Jarvis 8-2	J Tate	80
508	(11)	000-00	VICTORY COMMANDER 23 (Mrs J Naughton) T Naughton 8-2	M Henry (5)	–
509	(10)	03	CINDY KATE 100 (R Clarke) W Muir 8-1	C Rutter	80
510	(9)	44-0420	CISERANO 7 (BF) (K Dack) M Channon 7-13	N Carlisle	84
511	(7)	4-50	ELEGANTISSIMA 49 (B Taker & D Wilson) S Dow 7-13	J Quinn	72

BETTING: 5-4 Ortolan, 9-2 Lionel Edwards, 5-1 Depiction, 8-1 Cindy Kate, 10-1 Gormire, Red Time, 12-1 Ciserano, 14-1 others.

1995: FANTASY RACING 8-5 Pat Eddery (2-1 fav) M Channon 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

ORTOLAN 11½l 6th of 9 to Rambling Bear in Newbury conditions race (6f, good to firm). DEPICTION about 5¾l 5th of 14 to Hammerstein in Thirsk maiden (7f, good to firm). LIONEL EDWARDS 10½l 5th of 11 to Rebel County in Newmarket claimer (1m, good). GORMIRE 5l 3rd of 12 to Major Quality in Beverley maiden (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. RED TIME 3l 3rd of 11 to No Sympathy in Brighton claimer (7f, firm). CINDY KATE short-head and head 3rd of 5 to Drummer Golf Time in Lingfield auction maiden (AW, 6f).
Selection: ORTOLAN

4.45 A & J BULL MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £5,047: 1m 1f) (9 runners)

601	(8)	65	CHABROL 16 (L Mannopoulos) H Cecil 9-0	A McGlone	96
602	(9)	5-	DUNCOMBE HALL 366 (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 9-0	W J O'Connor	–
603	(4)	22	NORTH SONG 13 (BF) (J Gosden) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	98
604	(7)	60-00	REALMS OF GLORY 7 (D Crowson) P Mitchell 9-0	A Clark	65
605	(5)	3-	ROCKY OASIS 259 (M Al-Maktoum) M Stoute 9-0	J Reid	[illegible]
606	(6)	06-	DRAMATIC MOMENT 269 (Mrs R Plummer) I Balding 8-9	R Cochrane	80
607	(1)	4	PREMIER NIGHT 17 (D Churston) S Dow 8-9	T Quinn	95
608	(3)		SHERNA (Sir Harry Moore) I Balding 8-9	Martin Dwyer (5)	–
609	(2)		TA AWUN (H Al-Maktoum) A Stewart 8-9	W Carson	–

BETTING: 6-4 North Song, 5-2 Chabrol, 7-2 Rocky Oasis, 8-1 Premier Night, 12-1 Sherna, 14-1 others

1995: RAHY ZOMAN 9-0 D Harrison (3-1) J Fanshawe 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHABROL 12¾l 5th of 9 to Legal Right in Chester maiden (1m 2f, good). DUNCOMBE HALL about 14l 5th of 7 to Wixim in maiden here (5f, good to firm). NORTH SONG head 2nd of 12 to Royal Canaska in Leicester maiden (1m, good) penultimate start. ROCKY OASIS 4¾l 3rd of 8 to Mawwal in Doncaster conditions race (7f, good). DRAMATIC MOMENT 8¾l 6th of 9 to Waterland in Chepstow maiden (1m, good to firm). PREMIER NIGHT 6½l 4th of 9 to Whitewater Affair in Kempton maiden (1m, good to firm).
Selection: NORTH SONG

5.20 LEVIN DOWN APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£3,599: 5f) (14 runners)

1	(1)	004-000	ASHTINA 12 (C,D,F,G,S) (Ms S Joyner) B Pearce 11-10-0	D Sweeney (5)	90
2	(10)	200-000	TINKER OSMASTON 12 (D,F,S) (J Luff) M Saunders 5-9-12	D Griffiths	94
3	(7)	34-0000	SQUIRE CORRIE 13 (V,D,G) (G Harwood) G Harwood 4-9-9	Gaye Harwood (5)	97
4	(14)	245-135	CANOVAS HEART 20 (D,G,S) (M Osborne/Mrs J Woods) Bob Jones 7-9-9	A Daly	96
5	(2)	0500-03	BARRANAK 17 (M MacCarthy) G McCourt 4-9-6	M Henry	96
6	(3)	0000-00	BRYAN ROBSON 21 (D,F) (Temperance Society) G Balding 5-8-12	R Gordon (7)	90
7	(13)	611452-	SCORED AGAIN 406 (D,F,G,S) (A Sanders) M Heaton-Ellis 6-8-10	Amanda Sanders	–
8	(8)	0-00302	MAZZARELLO 13 (V,CD,F,G) (J McGivern) R Curtis 6-8-4	M Baird	[illegible]
9	(12)	315554	COASTGUARDS HERO 7 (G) (Coastguards Estate Agent) M Usher 3-8-2	P P Murphy	90
10	(4)	023440	EFFICACY 23 (G) (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 5-8-0	C Carver (7)	92
11	(5)	6-50000	NOMADIC DANCER 14 (M Saunders) M Saunders 4-7-10	P Doe (5)	82
12	(6)	600600	DISTANT DYNASTY 37 (B,D,G,S) (M Gibbs) B Pearce 6-7-10	R Mullen (5)	87
13	(11)	0-00000	MY MOTHER'S LOCAL 23 (B) (A Richards) K C-Brown 3-7-10	C Munday	89
14	(9)	6000	OLD GOLD N TAN 14 (A Osborne) J Poulton 3-7-10	Martin Dwyer	75

Long handicap: Nomadic Dancer 7-9, Distant Dynasty 7-8, My Mother's Local 6-13, Old Gold N Tan 6-11

BETTING: 4-1 Mazzarello, 5-1 Scored Again, 6-1 Bryan Robson, 7-1 Barranak, Squire Corrie, 8-1 Canovas Heart, 10-1 Coastguards Hero, 12-1 Tinker Osmaston, 14-1 others

1995: MAZZERELLO 5-7-7 M Baird (40-1) R Curtis 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

ASHTINA 9l 11th of 14 to Prima Silk in Lingfield handicap (6f, good to firm). TINKER OSMASTON 19l last of 12 to To The Roof in Bath handicap (5f, good to firm). CANOVAS HEART best effort this term beat Chadwell Hall ½l in Warwick handicap (5f, good) with MAZZARELLO 17½l 20th. BARRANAK ½l 3rd to Bolshoi in Doncaster claimer (5f, good to firm). BRYAN ROBSON 11l 17th to Patsy Grimes in Salisbury handicap (6f, good to firm). SCORED AGAIN 4l 2nd of 8 to Chadwell Hall in Wolverhampton handicap (AW, 5f). COASTGUARDS HERO 9l 4th to Daily Risk (later disqualified) in Salisbury claimer (7f, good to firm).
Selection: BARRANAK

Match against England offers chance of greater international recognition

China dependent on how Fan fares

LAURENCE GRIFFITHS

Fan, one of the leading players in China, signs autographs in Peking yesterday on the eve of the international against England

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE
IN PEKING

THE Chinese national training centre can be found down an unpromising backstreet in the northern suburbs of Peking. The old tenement block might remind a few of the England football team of their past, but, for Fan Zhiyi and the rest of the Chinese players, the stone-floored, twin-bedded cells lining a dimly lit corridor and reached up a decaying concrete staircase represent the present and the height of affluence. Outside, the rubbish piles up on the street and the market continues at its usual leisurely pace.

The only concession to luxury in the team meeting room is a video recorder and television screen. A white board charts the heart rates of the players. There is a bar, but it is unstocked. Fan, on whom so many hopes rest in the match with Terry Venables's side tonight, speaks of his respect for English football and his belief that China will qualify for the next World Cup in France. "We must," he said quietly. "We have lost too many times before."

He is 27, six feet tall, thin as bamboo, with feet as dainty as a dancer's, and his 15 goals for Shanghai last season made him the uncontested player of the year in China and brought the league title to the nation's biggest city. Yet — and no one really gave me a convincing explanation for this — he plays centre back for the national team. I asked him whether he minds the switch.

"No, I will play anywhere for my team," he said. They all say that, except that almost everything in China's history suggests that he truly means it. The individual submerged by the common will. "Flexibility and pace, those are the strengths of the team," Fan said. The weakness of the English team lies in defence, he thinks. "But we must have confidence because they are a very famous team." Then he reels off the names of the players he admires: Fowler, McManaman, Platt, Gascoigne, Ferdinand.

He knows them all from the television, would like to join them one day. But it seems a distant hope. Though a transfer market has been an inevitable adjunct to the start of the professional league in China, players are not encouraged to leave their home towns, let alone their country. Moving away smacks of disrespect, desertion even.

"I really would like to go abroad and join a foreign team," he explained. "European football has such a long history. Here we are just starting." He was offered a trial with a German team, but could not make the audition. He was reluctant to explain why. Besides, his life in Shanghai is full of hope.

Fan was one of the first players to turn professional, in 1994, has an apartment provided by his club and drives a Honda, which he bought himself. On average, the 1,000 or so professionals in China can earn about £1,500 a month, a bit more if they win. The national team are rumoured to be on £200 a man to beat England.

The timing of the new professionalism in China has been good for Fan. He was studying to be a sports teacher before he could earn his living from the game. He has progressed through the international junior teams to join the national side and earn a place in the heart of the people, alongside China's elite athletes, the badminton and table tennis players. At training in the Workers' Stadium, his was the most prized signature, while his impromptu appearance outside the gates of the training camp yesterday attracted an impressive band of autograph hunters. He signs in English to save time.

In Shanghai, Fan says, he cannot walk down the street without being recognised. Here, in Peking, it is a bit different, though a hurried call on a mobile phone hints at commercial wheels turning. Fan endorses Adidas, the sponsor of the national team, and cold drinks. But there is a long way to go. China needs international recognition. Hence, besides the historic implications and the need to measure recent progress, the importance of the game tonight and of their international in Holland next week.

"The level of football in China is improving all the time," Fan said. "Against England, we have the chance to show how far we have come and how far we still have to go."

Sixsmith's late goal averts second defeat

GREAT Britain's preparations for the Olympic women's hockey tournament in Atlanta were dealt another blow yesterday when they were held to a 1-1 draw by Argentina at Lilleshall. Had it not been for Jane Sixsmith scoring the equaliser with just 15 seconds to go, they would have suffered their second defeat in two days. The goal, an impressive move started by Tina Cullen, rounded off Britain's only serious attack in the second half.

Britain's key player was Jo Thompson, the goalkeeper, who kept out a barrage of shots and was only beaten by Sophie Mackenzie's penalty corner just before half-time.

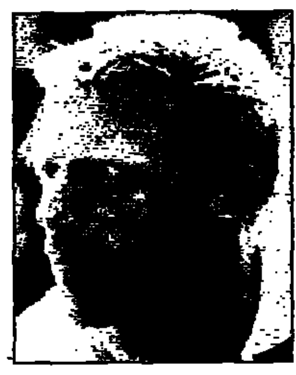
It was Argentina's fifth corner of a match where they proved simply too strong and too aggressive in every quarter of the pitch. More worrying for Sue Slocombe, the Great Britain coach, was the injury to Sue Fraser. She twisted her ankle in the morning practise session and joined the team's ever-expanding injury list.

Bulls capture Spruce

RUGBY LEAGUE: Bradford Bulls yesterday signed Stuart Spruce, from Widnes, of the first division, in a £140,000 deal that involves Tommy Hodgkinson, the hooker, moving in the opposite direction. Spruce, 25, who made one Great Britain appearance against France in 1993, is a full back replacement for Natham Graham, and will make his debut in the visit tomorrow of Leeds in the Stones Super League.

Super League in Australia begins an appeal today in the Federal Court in Sydney against the ruling, in February, in favour of the Australian Rugby League, banning its breakaway competition until 2000.

Blow for Becker



TENNIS: Boris Becker, right, has pulled out of the French Open next week because of a torn thigh muscle and faces intensive treatment to ensure that the injury does not upset his preparations for Wimbledon. The German said that he suffered the injury during his match against Marc Rosset, of Switzerland, at the World Team Cup on Monday, when he lost in straight sets.

Cipollini races back

CYCLING: Mario Cipollini rediscovered his sprint finish yesterday to provide Italy with a third victory in four stages of the Giro d'Italia. Acclaimed as the world's fastest finisher, Cipollini snatched victory in a mass charge for the line at the end of a 147-kilometre circuit race around Ostuni to end speculation about his recent loss of form. Silvio Martinello, Cipollini's team-mate, finished second, but regained the pink jersey as the race leader. The leading riders came home in 3hr 31min 39sec, averaging more than 41 kph.

Close seeks damages

BOXING: Ray Close, from Belfast, is to sue the British Boxing Board of Control over its decision to prevent him from meeting Chris Eubank for a third time last year after he had failed a brain scan. Close, a former European super-middleweight champion, has since been passed fit to box by the Boxing Union of Ireland. However, he has been unable to secure a World Boxing Organisation championship fight with Steve Collins, from Dublin, who took his place and seized the title from Eubank in March last year.

Pakistan name manager

CRICKET: Yawar Saeed, 61, who played for Somerset from 1953 to 1956, will manage the Pakistan side for the tour to England, which starts on June 22. He managed Pakistan on the 1985 tour of New Zealand and Australia and will replace Intikhab Alam, who took charge of Pakistan's 1992 and 1996 World Cup campaigns. "We have nothing but praise for Intikhab," Arif Abbasi, the chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board, said. "He has contributed a lot to the cricket team, but it was felt that a change should be made."

United go straight into Champions' League

MANCHESTER United have been included among the eight seeded clubs for next season's European Cup Champions' League, but Rangers, the Scottish champions, will have to qualify. Ajax lead the list of seeds who qualify directly for the last 16.

As Uefa announced plans to expand the Champions' League from 16 to 24 clubs in the 1997-98 season, football's European ruling body also revealed that Manchester United will be joined by Ajax, AC Milan, Auxerre, Borussia Dortmund and Porto and either Atlético Madrid or Valencia and FC Bruges or Juventus, depending on their performance in last night's European Cup final, as direct qualifiers.

The 16 teams who must play a qualifying round to earn a place in the Champions' League have been split into seeded and non-seeded clubs, with Rangers, in the second group, contemplating a tie against one of Panathinaikos or AEK Athens, Fenerbahce, Rapid Vienna or Sturm Graz, Grasshoppers, Alania Vladikavkaz, Brondby or AGF Aarhus, IFK Gothenburg and Sparta Prague. The draw for the qualifying round will be on July 6.

Birmingham splash out for Bruce

BY PETER BALL

MANCHESTER United are reluctantly beginning their summer with a number of disposals for the second year in succession. A day after releasing Paul Parker, their England international defender, the club announced that the captain, Steve Bruce, was joining Birmingham City on a free transfer.

Unlike Parker's departure, however, Bruce's decision was his alone, United seeing him go with some reluctance. "I had an escape clause in my contract if I received an offer I wanted to accept," he said yesterday. "Birmingham have made me a fabulous offer, so, in principle, I've agreed to join them."

With Birmingham compensating him for the loss of a testimonial, the total contract is understood to be not far short of £2 million over two years, making Bruce, 35, one of the most highly paid players in the country.

"We have bettered the terms he was on at Manchester United and I can't imagine anyone will be earning more," David Sullivan, Birmingham's chairman, said. "Steve is in a different class. We've bought a captain, a leader and someone who will shore up the defence."

For once, that is not the usual buyer's hyperbole. Bruce, who is a notable first signing for Trevor Francis, still had a year left on his contract, and although he was left out of the 14-man squad for the FA Cup Final, Alex Ferguson was quick to deny reports that the omission spelt the end of Bruce's outstanding years with the club.

Bruce, though, saw the writing on the Wembley dressing-room wall. "I stewed over whether to leave United for three or four days," he said. "I've had nine wonderful years there, and leaving was the hardest decision of my life. But I've left on a high.

"I could have stayed for another year, but it's not in me to sit around doing nothing. I know the club are looking for a top quality defender, and when you look at the players already there as well, it would be difficult. I thought that, if I wasn't in the team, I could stagnate."

One of the top quality defenders United have been watching regularly is Couto, Parma's Portugal international central defender. Yesterday, possibly alerted by the news that United are in the market, Rangers were understood to have offered £2.8 million for the player.

☐ Bobby Robson, 63, yesterday signed his £100,000-a-month contract to coach Barcelona and pledged himself to provide entertainment.

Windswept Hall regains champion's poise

BY MEL WEBB

JULIE HALL, the golfer who this week is attempting to win the English women's amateur championship for the third year in succession, could not remember when she had had a score as high as the 85 she recorded in the first qualifying round at Silloth-on-Solway on Monday. Yesterday, she was firmly back on track, a 72 putting her comfortably into the matchplay stages that start today.

Hall, 29, one of the most dominant figures in British women's golf in recent times, is retiring from competitive play after the Curtis Cup match this year and has already taken up her duties as the tournament secretary of the Ladies' Golf Union. When she finished her round on Monday, she probably wished she was already tucked up in the comfort of the clubhouse, her official's hat firmly on her head. The pounding wind and rain blowing from the Solway Firth left her feeling frustrated and bedraggled — she could, she said, have wrung her shirt out, so wet was she.

Things improved a good deal for her and the rest of the field yesterday, but Silloth was still no place to be warm or dry. The qualifiers were led by Elaine Ratcliffe, of Sandiway, already selected for the Curtis Cup on 150, four shots ahead of her nearest rival, Karen Stupples, of Royal Cinque Ports, another Cup selection.

Some idea of the conditions can be gained by the fact that, on the 17th, a 464-yard par five, Ratcliffe had an eagle three after needing no more than a drive and a five-iron to put her on the green.

The course is blooming in Cumbria and, if the weather were friendlier, there would be few better places for the country's leading women amateurs to be playing golf. As it is, spring in the North West is little more than an unsubstantiated rumour.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Seattle 13 Boston 7; Cleveland 6 Milwaukee 5; Kansas City 7 Detroit 1; California 5 Baltimore 2; New York 7 Oakland 3; Chicago 2 Toronto 1; Minnesota 4 Texas 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Francisco 6 Montreal 5; Florida 3 Cincinnati 2; Chicago 4 Atlanta 2; St Louis 8 Houston 2; Colorado 12 Pittsburgh 10; Los Angeles 6 New York 4; Philadelphia 5 San Diego 4.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Play-offs: Finals: Eastern Conference: Chicago 93 Orlando 88 (Chicago lead best-of-seven-games series 2-0).

CYCLING

MIDI LIBRE: First stage (172.5 kilometres, Millau): 1, F Moncassin (Fr, GAN) 4hr 25min 15sec; 2, A Tchmil (Russ, Lotto); 3, M Van Heeswijk (Holl, Motorola); 4, R Aldag (Ger, Telekom); 5, N Jalabert (Fr, Mutuelle Seine-et-Marne); 6, K Ozers (Lat, Motorola) all same time.

CRICKET

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of four): Horsham: Sussex v Middlesex (no play).

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Second day of three: Abbotsholme School: Essex 300-5 dec; Derbyshire 123 (P A Grayson 5-6; S J W Andrew 4-43) and 196 (T A Tweats 56; Grayson 4-24). Essex won by 9 wkts. Oakham: Lancashire 285 (R J Green 63); Leicestershire 225 and 51 (I D Austin 5-16). Lancashire won by an innings and 9 runs. Other match: Bradford: England Under-19 353-7 dec (D J Roberts 151, A Flintoff 105) and 15-0; Yorkshire 2nd XI 280 (C A Chapman 97; U Afzaal 4-87). Final day of three: Worcester: Gloucestershire 201 (N J Trainor 104; M J Rawnsley 7-56); Worcestershire 159-1 (V S Solanki 112 not out, M Dewan 40 not out). Match drawn. Southampton: Glamorgan 112 (S D Udal 5-15) and 225 (J R A Williams 61, A J Dalton 57, R V Almond 54 not out; Udal 4-73); Hampshire 196 (M J Thursfield 50, A P Davies 4-41) and 72-1. Match drawn. Boldon: Durham 411-7 dec (J Wood 103 not out, D G C Ligertwood 90, D A Blenkiron 70, M J Foster 57) and 16-1; Sussex 285 (M Newell 84, R Halsall 76). Match drawn. Oxted: Surrey 372-5 dec (I J Ward 164 not out, B C Hollioake 100, T Sluse 52) and 183-8 Nottinghamshire 293-8 dec (L N Walker 127 not out, M Newell 51, J M De La Pena 5-92). Match drawn. Ashford: Kent 384-9 dec (M J Walker 83, N R Taylor 82, B J Phillips 57 not out; J F Brown 4-81, A R Roberts 4-88) and 110-4dec (D J Spencer 71 not out) Northamptonshire 246 (K J Innes 71, A R Roberts 63) and 18-3. Match drawn.

FOOTBALL

Tuesday's late results

RUDI VÖLLER TESTIMONIAL: Germany 3 International XI 1.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cranleigh 1 Reading 3; Netherne 5 Eton Wick 0.

GOLF

WILDERNESSE, Sevenoaks: Club senior professional championship: First round: 69: J Rhodes (South Staffs), H Flatman (Romford). 70: T Britz (Broome Park), J Hudson (Benton Hall), P Green (Meon Valley), P Leonard (Dunmurry). 71: T Horton (Royal Jersey). 72: B Hunt (Foxhills), B Waites (Notts), T Squires (Boston), B Browne (Laytown and Bettystown), A Bickerdyke (Marsden)

ROYAL DORNOCH: Scottish women's amateur championship: First round: 76: L Moffat (West Kilbride), A Rose (Stirling). 77: L Nicholson (Heriot-Watt University). 78: H Stirling (Dunblane New), F McKay (Elgin), H Monaghan (Heriot-Watt University), F Farquharson (King James VI). 79: E Vass (Tain). 80: J Mack (Haggs Castle), T Stoddart (Cawder), D Jackson (Cochrane Castle). 81: L Morton (Tulliallan), A Gemmill (Kilmarnock Barassie), V Melvin (Clydebank and District), C Divers (Douglas Park), F Lockhart (Balbirnie Park), F Anderson (Blairgowrie), J Ford (Gullane Ladies).

HOCKEY

LILLESHALL: Women's international: Great Britain (Sixsmith) 1 Argentina 1 (MacKenzie)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup: Play-offs: Finals: Western Conference: Colorado 3 Detroit 0 (OT) (Colorado lead best-of-seven-games series 2-0).

SQUASH

CAIRO: Al Ahram International: Semi-finals: J Khan (Pak) bt P Nicol (Scot) 15-11, 15-9, 15-7; A Barada (Egypt) bt C Walker (Eng) 13-15, 15-11, 17-14, 9-15, 15-13.

TENNIS

DÜSSELDORF: ATP World Team Cup: Blue group: Holland 2 Russia 1 (Holland names first: P Haarhuis and J Siemerink bt Y Kafelnikov and A Volkov 6-4, 4-6, 6-1); Czech Republic 3 United States 0 (Czech Republic names first: P Korda and D Vacek bt R Reneberg and J Stark 6-2, 6-7, 7-6). Red group: Spain 3 Germany 0 (Spain names first: A Costa bt C-U Steeb 6-0 6-3; S Bruguera bt D Prinosil 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; F Roig and T Carbonell bt Prinosil and P Kuhnen 7-5, 6-2); Switzerland 2 Sweden 0 (Switzerland first: M Rosset bt T Enqvist 6-1, 2-6, 6-3, J Hlasek bt M Larsson 2-6, 6-2, 6-3).

ST PÖLTEN, Austria: Men's tournament: First round: B Black (Zim) bt W Schranz (Austria) 7-6, 6-1; S Edberg (Swe) bt K Kucera (Slovakia) 6-3, 6-4; G Rusedski (GB) bt G Schaller (Austria) 7-5, 6-3; F Clavet (Sp) bt M Charpentier (Arg) 3-6, 6-3, 6-1; J Sánchez (Sp) bt D Wheaton (US) 6-4, 7-5; F Mantilla (Sp) bt D Rikl (Cz) 4-6, 6-4, 6-1. Second round: A Gaudenzi (It) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 6-0, 6-1; S Dosedel (Cze) bt S Pescosolido (It) 6-3, 6-0; M Rios (Chile) bt M Filippini (Uru) 6-2, 6-2; T Muster (Austria) bt M Göllner (Ger) 6-7, 6-4, 7-6; Clavet bt Sánchez 5-7, 6-0, 6-2; Mantilla bt G Rusedski 6-2, 6-7, 6-3; K Carlsen (Den) bt Y El-Aynaoui (Mor) 6-1, 6-4, S Edberg (Swe) bt Black 6-4, 7-5.

MADRID: Women's tournament: First round: B Schett (Austria) bt A Frazier (US) 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt J Kruger (SA) 0-6, 1-0 ret; M Antonia Sánchez (Sp) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-2, 7-6; F Labat (Arg) bt N Serra (Sp) 6-1, 6-1; I Spirlea (Rom) bt W Probst (Ger) 6-1, 6-2; L Richterova (Cz) bt J Halard-Decugis (Fr) 7-6, 6-3; L Raymond (US) bt V Ruano (Sp) 6-4, 6-3; R Bobkova (Cz) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6-3, 7-6; A Coetzer (SA) bt K Nowak (Pol) 6-0, 6-1; J Novotna (Cz) bt P Schnyder (Switz) 7-6, 6-4; B Schultz McCarthy (Holl) bt M Oremans (Holl) 6-4, 7-5. Second round: M Seles (US) bt Schett 3-6, 7-6, 6-2; Novotna bt Raymond 6-2, 7-5; Schultz McCarthy bt Bobkova 6-4, 6-3; Maleeva bt Antonia Sánchez 6-4, 6-1; Coetzer bt E Likhotseva (Russ) 6-4, 6-4; A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt Labat 7-5, 6-1; Spirlea w/o Sawamatsu scr.

STRASBOURG: Women's tournament: Second round: B Paulus (Austria) bt A Fusai (Fr) 6-4, 6-3; K Studenikova (Slovakia) bt A Glass (Ger) 6-4, 6-0; L Davenport (US) bt L Ghirardi-Rubbi (Fr) 6-1, 7-5; J Wiesner (Austria) bt Wang Shi-ting (Taiwan) 6-2, 6-2.

DAVIS CUP: Euro/African zone: Pool A: Senegal 3 Azerbaijan 0; Ethiopia 2 Sudan 1; Lithuania 3 Iceland 0. Pool B: Turkey 3 Liechtenstein 0; Georgia 2 Armenia 1; Bosnia 2 Tunisia 1.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts £178,927.70, 23 £1,873.45, 22 £116.75, 21 £23.50, 20 £4.90. Four aways: £8.75. Ten homes: £1.00. Six aways: £2,818.50.

VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts £252,832.00, 23 £954.15, 22 £85.65, 21 £15.65. 12 homes: £3.05. Ten aways: £91.45.

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 23pts £1,504.55, 22 £9.10, 21 £1.65. Four draws: £12.40. Eight homes: £0.70. Six aways: £1,295.70. Lucky nos: 33 8 24 7 16 26.

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

International match
China A v England
(at Peking, 12.45)

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Reading v Netherne (7.30).

CRICKET

First Texaco Trophy
one-day international
10.45, 50 overs
THE OVAL: England v India

Britannic Assurance championship
11.0, second day of four, 104 overs minimum
HORSHAM: Sussex v Middlesex

11.0, first day of four, 104 overs minimum
DERBY: Derbyshire v Essex
ABERGAVENNY: Glamorgan v Worcestershire
GLOUCESTER: Gloucestershire v Surrey
PORTSMOUTH: Hampshire v Durham
CANTERBURY: Kent v Yorkshire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Northamptonshire
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Leicestershire

University match
11.30, first day of three
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Nottinghamshire

BAIN HOGG TROPHY (one day): Belper Meadows: Derbyshire v Lancashire; Southampton: Hampshire v Glamorgan; Walsall: Minor Counties v Leicestershire; Uxbridge CC: Middlesex v Northamptonshire.

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: Windsor Horse Trials (Windsor Great Park).

TENNIS: World Women's Doubles Cup (Craiglockhart Sports Centre, Edinburgh)

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Sheffield v Long Eaton (7.45). Speedway Star Cup: First round, second leg: Middlesbrough v Hull (7.30). Second round, second leg: Ipswich v Wolverhampton (7.30); London v Reading (7.30).

هكذا من الاصل

India's manager hopes to turn short contract into three-year tenure

Patil cast to fill inspirational role

BY SIMON WILDE

THESE are tough times for cricket's national managers. Since eight of the nine Test-playing teams committed the unforgivable sin of not winning the World Cup two months ago, five of them — Wes Hall, Ajit Wadekar, Raymond Illingworth, Bob Simpson and Intikhab Alam — have hung up their tracksuits.

Two new ones will be on show at the Oval today. They belong to David Lloyd, of England, and Sandeep Patil, of India. For Lloyd (who prefers the title of coach), it is his first match in charge; for Patil, his third. His first mission — a one-day tournament in Singapore — ended with his side third out of three.

That does not greatly worry him. Patil is too polite to say so, but his playing days taught him what it is like to be branded a scapegoat. He accepts that he is in a precarious profession and is ready for whatever fate delivers. "Let's live for the moment," he says, which has always been his motto.

As a player, Patil was one of the most flamboyant batsmen of his day and accomplished two of the most impressive feats in the history of Test cricket. He hit six fours in an over from Bob Willis when Willis was near his prime and scored 174 against Lillee, Hogg and Pascoe — when all were in their prime — only days after being put in hospital by a bouncer from Pascoe.

Patil also did some pretty wild things off the field, though the only one he will discuss is his lead role in a Hindu film. Indian players are often treated like movie stars in their own country; Patil actually became one — at least, for one film. It was an all-action adventure called *Once You Were Unknown*.

Two years later, Patil's playing career lived out the unhappy sequel, *Unknown Again*. In 1984 India lost a Test match to England in Delhi and Patil and Kapil Dev were dropped for their irresponsible dismissals. Kapil, being Kapil, was recalled after one match; Patil, being Patil, never was. At the age of 28, his international career was over — by some estimations, five years before it should have been.

Like Lloyd, Patil is young enough to be capable of forging close links with his players. Wadekar was like a father to them; Patil wants to be an elder brother. As he was playing club cricket in India with several of them until recently, he has not had any trouble gaining their respect.

"My ambition for the team is to play consistently good cricket," he said. "Too often we have played well one day and badly the next. We may not win all the time but I want us to carry that attitude with us always. Everyone agreed that our match with Australia during the World Cup was a very good game of cricket, even though we lost it.

"I understand that it is sometimes difficult for the players. Their places are at stake and so is a lot of money. It is my job to encourage them, not discourage them. I can easily drop a player and easily discipline one but, if I do so too often, the failure will be mine, not theirs."

If Patil's intention is that India should play the game in the right spirit, he has every reason for believing so after their disgraceful exit from the World Cup. They were comfortably losing their semi-final to Sri Lanka when the Calcutta crowd rioted, causing the match to be abandoned. "We like to call ourselves sportsmen in India," Patil said, "but we have actually got to mean it."

These are fine words, well said, but living up to them will be a another matter. India have a tough year ahead. After England, one-day tournaments in Sri Lanka and Canada will be swiftly followed by Test series against South Africa, Australia and West Indies.

Whether Patil, who would like to stay with the team for three years, will survive them all remains to be seen. Like Lloyd, he has earned his position through service with national junior teams but, also like Lloyd, his initial contract extends only until September.

MARC ASPLAND

Lloyd, left, and Patil, in conversation at the Oval yesterday, are charged with reviving the fortunes of their national teams

Leaders will provide champions with test of character

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ONLY a team that has set remarkably high standards could have its championship credentials questioned after a single defeat. This is the position in which Warwickshire find themselves, after a loss to Hampshire on Monday, and there will be more than the usual interest in the visit of Leicestershire to Edgbaston today.

Leicestershire lead the table and, once more, are confounding those who dismiss their unfashionable squad as also-rans. They are unchanged today, and likely to provide a serious examination of Warwickshire, who were uncharacteristically lifeless in losing to Hampshire.

That charge cannot be levelled at the captain. Dermot Reeve, who employed such dubious tactics in trying to stave off defeat that he could face disciplinary action. Reeve persistently threw his bat away while playing Raj Maru's left-arm spin with his pads and it now seems certain that the Test and County Cricket Board will ask the umpires for their view.

Reeve can at least call on some more experienced assistance today. His vice-captain, Tim Munton, is still absent and much missed, but Andy Moles and Gladstone Small are set to return. When fit, Small adds an accomplished air to the Warwickshire attack that they may well need today.

Not the least noteworthy aspect of Hampshire's win on Monday was that it came with Maru as third-choice captain. He will only continue in the role against Durham at Portsmouth today if John Stephenson fails a fitness test on his injured hand. Shaun Udal returns for Hampshire but Robin Smith misses the game with a broken finger.

A similar injury keeps Richard Harden out of Somerset's game with Northamptonshire at Taunton. Harden was one of the casualties of a furious spell of fast bowling by Courtney Walsh at Bristol on Monday. Another was Peter Bowler, who has 17 stitches in a facial wound and will also sit out the match today.

Gloucestershire have begun encouragingly in the championship, beating Middlesex and coming within a single wicket of victory over Somerset. Surrey take them on at Gloucester while missing four players on England duty. Rob Cunliffe is out of the home team, however, and a trialist, Nick Trainer, will open the batting.

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bl	Pts
Leics (7)	3	2	0	1	10	9	54
Yorkshire (8)	3	2	0	1	11	7	53
Essex (5)	3	2	1	0	11	9	52
Kent (18)	3	2	0	1	8	8	51
Somerset (9)	3	1	0	2	9	12	43
Derbyshire (14)	3	1	1	1	12	9	40
Glamorgan (16)	3	1	2	0	12	5	33
Gloucs (6)	2	1	0	1	3	8	30
Hampshire (13)	2	1	1	0	6	8	30
Warwicks (1)	2	1	1	0	4	8	28
Middlesex (2)	2	1	1	0	1	8	25
Notts (11)	3	0	1	2	7	11	24
Lancashire (4)	3	0	1	2	7	9	22
Surrey (12)	2	0	0	2	8	6	20
Durham (17)	3	0	2	1	3	12	18
Northants (3)	2	0	1	1	7	6	16
Sussex (15)	2	0	1	1	4	3	10
Worcs (10)	2	0	2	0	1	6	7

(Last season's positions in brackets)

Britain coach resigns before Olympics

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

DAVID WHITAKER, the coach of the Great Britain men's hockey team, resigned from his post with immediate effect yesterday, citing business reasons. He had been expected to coach the team through to the Olympic Games, which start in Atlanta in two months' time.

Whitaker, a management consultant in a multinational company, was appointed to the part-time post of head coach of the British team in 1993. His resignation will come as a serious blow to the team, whose fortunes will now be guided by the two assistants, Jon Copp and James Duthie, who, though competent coaches themselves, are short of international experience in this capacity. Whitaker coached the Great Britain team to its bronze medal at Los Angeles in 1984 and its gold medal in Seoul in 1988.

The British team, which started a training camp at Bisham Abbey yesterday, was informed of Whitaker's resignation the night before. Richard Dodds, chairman of the Great Britain mens' Olympic hockey committee, who made the announcement, said that he was not entirely surprised because, after the Olympic qualifying tournament in Barcelona in January, Whitaker had talked of resigning but decided to carry on in the interests of the team.

In a written statement issued yesterday, Whitaker said: "After much discussion and personal reflection, I have withdrawn from the remainder of the Great Britain mens' Olympic programme."

Two factors influenced his decision. "First, it has always been our intention to build the management and coaching staff to a level of competence and confidence that enabled them to take the programme on for themselves. My part-time employment made this contingency essential. I believe we were rapidly approaching that position by the end of the Olympic qualifier.

"Secondly, within my business life, we have experienced very rapid growth during the last nine months and this is putting increasing demands upon all concerned. My future lies with the business and I therefore have a major responsibility to give care and attention to it."

The British team, which will continue to be managed by David Whittle, is due to play Germany, the Olympic champions, at Milton Keynes on Sunday.

Whitaker: stepping down

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

Pos	Team (Player's name)	Pts
1	The Bunnies 3 (B Warren)	4433
2	The May Allstars (D Tattoo)	4387
3	Opportunists 4th XI (P Stewart)	4362
4	Breakfast Boys (J Goodman)	4339
5	Ooh Aah Kenlona (N Elison)	4333
6	Opportunists 1st XI (P Stewart)	4327
7	Katherineshire (D Harvey)	4320
=8	Hunt 4 £10,000 E (J Hunt)	4311
=8	Taunton A (J Hunt)	4311
10	Jones Boys One (ML Jones)	4306
11	....	4305
12	(D Ajitar)	4303
13	Mumm (M Boswal)	4289
14	Odissy Three (M Long)	4288
15	Bert's Allsorts One (BE Howes)	4286
16	Law Of Australia (H Paul)	4281
17	Asparagus Twelve (Barcas)	4276
18	Freds Team (R Price)	4273
19	Hunt 4 £10,000 A (J Hunt)	4270
20	Oh Nevilla (H Paul)	4263
21	Sunderland CC 2 (J Molson-Willand)	4261
22	Ricardos Marvels (R Williams)	4257
23	K P Allstars 1 (KR Patel)	4251
24	Skys The Limit CC (K Sutton)	4246
25	Perth Finders A (P Stewart)	4244
26	Hallamshire (T Morgan)	4243
27	Johnson's First XI (RJ Johnson)	4236
28	Carju's Crickets (J Candy)	4233
29	Lindas Loosers (L Tattoo)	4229
30	Ealings Goal 3 (J Eaton)	4227
31	The Bodyliners (C Taylor)	4213
32	K P Allstars 3 (KR Patel)	4208
33	Webbies Wallies (AR Howse)	4206
34	Hine Side XI (JF Davies)	4205
35	The Wagging Tail (JAM Talbot)	4204
36	Badal XI (FD Hussain)	4203
=37	....	4201
=37	Oh Jilly Sir (M Long)	4201
=37	Happy Valley 2 (R Wallace)	4201
=37	Bowled Marilyn (H Paul)	4201
41	Ataturks (P Stewart)	4199
=42	The Gillespie Rogues (T Doyle)	4194
=42	Formula 5 (M Loveridge)	4194
44	Fatc Sloggers (B Jackson)	4192
=45	Slumped For A Name (A Youngman)	4187
=45	Wednesdayshire (A Hibberd)	4187
=45	The Clay Pitches (C Grant)	4187
=45	The Run Rats (Mrs L Tattoo)	4187
=49	Boundary Board XI (A Youngman)	4180
=49	Johns Boys 3 (M Jones)	4180
51	Duncan Idahoe H (G Still)	4175
52	Eatons Goats (J Eaton)	4168
53	Daves Demonds (D Tattoo)	4167
54	Old Catton 2nd XI (A Fisher)	4161
=55	Another Fiasco (Mrs KT Sullivan)	4157
=55	Jones Boys Two (M Jones)	4157
57	Virtual Reality (TJ Hillman)	4156
58	Dings Goats 2 (J Eaton)	4155
59	Opportunists 3rd XI (Stewart)	4145
60	M C M (M Poswal)	4138
61	Giant Venture 3 (D Richardson)	4137
62	Doopey Mid On (M Ward)	4136
63	Oddity 5 (M Long)	4135
64	Singing In The Rain (H Paul)	4132
65	James Bond & Co (P Davis)	4128
=66	Hunt 4 £10,000 H (J Hunt)	4127
=66	Hunt 4 £10,000 F (J Hunt)	4127
=66	Lisa's Winner (D Williams)	4127
69	New York Dolls (Rae)	4126
=70	Oddity 2 (M Long)	4121
=70	Old Southgate XI (P Gregorou)	4121
=72	Nutkin CC (M Hawkins)	4117
=72	George C W XI (B Warmisham)	4117
=72	......	4117
75	Hedgehog Sanchez (T Molloy)	4114
76	Taunton C's (J Hunt)	4112
77	Duncan Idaho D (G Still)	4107
78	Catrick (J Latbach)	4105
=79	Lt05 (L Garland)	4104
=79	....	4104
81	(M Whitley)	4101
=82	Taff's Tigers (J Short)	4100
=82	Brain's Choice 1 (BE Howes)	4100
84	Holden End CC (T Morgan)	4098
85	Tads 1st XI (T Doyle)	4094
=86	Cockatiel Heads (C Woodward)	4093
=86	Teddy Two (B Bean)	4093
=86	Caught Henry (H Paul)	4093
=89	Otessey 4 (M Long)	4091
=89	The Bunnies 1 (B Warren)	4091
=91	Hunt 4 £10,000 C (J Hunt)	4088
=91	Ciw Dedicated XI (JN Eveling)	4088
=93	Altona Aces (S Lansley)	4087
=93	Adifty 1 (M Long)	4087
95	Hunt 4 £10,000 D (J Hunt)	4086
96	Martina McBride (S Vale)	4084
97	We Wanted Botham (A Holder)	4082
98	....	4080
99	Mighty Bats (D Tattoo)	4079
100	Amphetamine Kids (M Eves)	4077

THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

The scores in brackets are the points scored in the last week: the other scores are the cumulative points scored since the start of the season. The figures include all matches completed by May 20..

Batsmen (001-135)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
C J Adams (001)	264	(44)	0	(0)	264	(44)
G F Archer (002)	181	(62)	0	(0)	181	(62)
M A Atherton (003)	268	(24)	0	(0)	268	(24)
C W J Athey (004)	201	(111)	0	(0)	201	(111)
M Azharuddin (005)	91	(0)	0	(0)	91	(0)
R J Bailey (006)	82	(0)	0	(0)	82	(0)
K J Barnett (007)	312	(22)	5	(0)	412	(22)
M R Benson (008)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M G Bevan (009)	395	(141)	0	(0)	395	(141)
D J Bicknell (010)	73	(0)	0	(0)	73	(0)
D A Blenkiron (011)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
P D Bowler (012)	284	(13)	0	(0)	284	(13)
N E Briers (013)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A D Brown (014)	56	(0)	0	(0)	56	(0)
D Byas (015)	154	(29)	0	(0)	154	(29)
S L Campbell (016)	42	(6)	0	(0)	42	(6)
J D Carr (017)	178	(34)	0	(0)	178	(34)
M J Church (018)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
P A Cottey (019)	336	(180)	0	(0)	336	(180)
G R Cowdrey (020)	249	(111)	0	(0)	249	(111)
J P Crawley (021)	201	(88)	0	(0)	201	(88)
C D Crowe (022)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R J Cunliffe (023)	79	(28)	0	(0)	79	(28)
T S Curtis (024)	67	(14)	0	(0)	67	(14)
J A Daley (025)	116	(34)	0	(0)	116	(34)
A J Dalton (026)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R I Dawson (027)	36	(0)	1	(0)	56	(0)
M P Dowman (028)	28	(0)	0	(0)	28	(0)
N H Fairbrother (029)	224	(139)	0	(0)	224	(139)
A Flintoff (030)	2	(0)	0	(0)	2	(0)
A Fordham (031)	121	(0)	0	(0)	121	(0)
D P Fulton (032)	127	(34)	0	(0)	127	(34)
J E R Gallian (033)	231	(94)	4	(3)	311	(154)
M W Gatting (034)	462	(77)	0	(0)	462	(77)
N A Gie (035)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G A Gooch (036)	321	(75)	1	(1)	341	(95)
K Greenfield (037)	206	(206)	0	(0)	206	(206)
A Habib (038)	301	(215)	0	(0)	301	(215)
J W Hall (039)	94	(0)	0	(0)	94	(0)
T H C Hancock (040)	175	(98)	0	(0)	175	(98)
R J Harden (041)	64	(61)	0	(0)	64	(61)
M E Harvey (042)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A N Hayhurst (043)	81	(7)	0	(0)	81	(7)
G R Haynes (044)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D L Hemp (045)	103	(0)	1	(0)	123	(0)
G A Hick (046)	274	(5)	0	(0)	274	(5)
A J Hollioake (047)	327	(0)	3	(0)	387	(0)
N Hussain (048)	178	(39)	0	(0)	178	(39)
S Hutton (049)	195	(0)	0	(0)	195	(0)
Ijaz Ahmed (050)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Inzamam-ul-Haq (051)	0	(0)	0	(0)	308	(7)
S P James (052)	308	(7)	0	(0)	247	(151)
P Johnson (053)	247	(151)	0	(0)	370	(34)
D M Jones (054)	370	(34)	0	(0)	0	(0)
V Kambli (055)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M Keech (056)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
W S Kendall (057)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G J Kennis (058)	0	(0)	0	(0)	194	(16)
W G Khan (059)	194	(16)	0	(0)	362	(65)
N V Knight (060)	362	(65)	0	(0)	284	(113)
J S Laney (061)	284	(113)	0	(0)	184	(78)
M N Lathwell (062)	184	(78)	1	(0)	425	(124)
S G Law (063)	405	(124)	1	(0)	221	(54)
D A Leatherdale (064)	201	(54)	0	(0)	205	(8)
N J Lenham (065)	205	(8)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J J B Lewis (066)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N J Llong (067)	0	(0)	0	(0)	110	(0)
G D Lloyd (068)	110	(0)	0	(0)	6	(6)
J I Longley (069)	6	(6)	0	(0)	146	(67)
M B Loye (070)	146	(67)	0	(0)	5	(0)
M A Lynch (071)	5	(0)	0	(0)	66	(0)
G I Macmillan (072)	66	(0)	4	(0)	270	(63)
D L Maddy (073)	190	(63)	0	(0)	149	(67)
S V Manjrekar (074)	149	(67)	0	(0)	377	(35)
M P Maynard (075)	377	(35)	0	(0)	196	(27)
A McGrath (076)	196	(27)	0	(0)	145	(72)
A A Metcalfe (077)	145	(72)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A J Moles (078)	0	(0)	0	(0)	307	(126)
R R Montgomerie (079)	307	(126)	4	(3)	245	(172)
T M Moody (080)	165	(112)	0	(0)	527	(90)
H Morris (081)	527	(90)	0	(0)	140	(88)
J E Morris (082)	140	(88)	0	(0)	66	(16)
R S M Morris (083)	66	(16)	0	(0)	356	(0)
M D Moxon (084)	356	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
K Newell (085)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
T J G O'Gorman (086)	0	(0)	0	(0)	218	(3)
D P Ostler (087)	218	(3)	0	(0)	212	(105)
J E Owen (088)	212	(105)	0	(0)	0	(0)
K A Parsons (089)	0	(0)	0	(0)	256	(121)
T L Penney (090)	256	(121)	0	(0)	136	(49)
P R Pollard (091)	136	(49)	0	(0)	286	(148)
J C Pooley (092)	286	(148)	0	(0)	163	(42)
P J Prichard (093)	163	(42)	0	(0)	91	(0)
M R Ramprakash (094)	91	(0)				
J D Ratcliffe (095)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D D J Robinson (096)	189	(92)	0	(0)	189	(92)
P E Robinson (097)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R T Robinson (098)	260	(153)	0	(0)	260	(153)
A S Rollins (099)	267	(75)	0	(0)	267	(75)
M A Roseberry (100)	325	(40)	0	(0)	325	(40)
Saeed Anwar (101)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
O A Shah (102)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N Shahid (103)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Salim Malik (104)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D J Sales (105)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N S Sidhu (106)	171	(40)	0	(0)	171	(40)
P V Simmons (107)	76	(51)	4	(3)	156	(111)
A Singh (108)	206	(83)	0	(0)	206	(83)
B F Smith (109)	232	(25)	0	(0)	232	(25)
R A Smith (110)	127	(20)	0	(0)	127	(20)
N J Speak (111)	171	(75)	0	(0)	171	(75)
M P Speight (112)	120	(51)	0	(0)	120	(51)
A J Stewart (113)	82	(0)	0	(0)	82	(0)
I J Sutcliffe (114)	151	(0)	0	(0)	151	(0)
A Symonds (115)	286	(65)	0	(0)	286	(65)
N R Taylor (116)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S R Tendulkar (117)	204	(152)	1	(1)	224	(172)
V P Terry (118)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G P Thorpe (119)	333	(0)	0	(0)	333	(0)
S P Titchard (120)	4	(0)	0	(0)	4	(0)
M E Trescothick (121)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
T A Tweats (122)	96	(0)	0	(0)	96	(0)
M P Vaughan (123)	233	(1)	1	(0)	253	(1)
M J Walker (124)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
T C Walton (125)	55	(55)	0	(0)	55	(55)
D M Ward (126)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
T R Ward (127)	157	(12)	0	(0)	157	(12)
A P Wells (128)	170	(49)	0	(0)	170	(49)
R M S Weston (129)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
W P C Weston (130)	202	(84)	0	(0)	202	(84)
G W White (131)	85	(45)	0	(0)	85	(45)
J J Whitaker (132)	367	(168)	0	(0)	367	(168)
P R Whitaker (133)	238	(58)	4	(0)	318	(58)
M G N Windows (134)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A J Wright (135)	134	(28)	0	(0)	134	(28)

All-rounders (150-203)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
Aamir Sohail (150)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M W Alleyne (151)	129	(28)	9	(0)	309	(28)
I D Austin (152)	20	(0)	4	(0)	100	(0)
P Bainbridge (153)	44	(0)	0	(0)	44	(0)
D R Brown (154)	99	(44)	5	(0)	199	(44)
M A Butcher (155)	194	(0)	1	(0)	214	(0)
C L Cairns (156)	169	(73)	9	(3)	349	(133)
D J Capel (157)	147	(0)	2	(0)	187	(0)
D G Cork (158)	131	(22)	10	(2)	331	(62)
R D B Croft (159)	51	(8)	14	(5)	331	(108)
K M Curran (160)	83	(0)	4	(0)	163	(0)
A Dale (161)	182	(29)	3	(0)	242	(29)
P A J DeFreitas (162)	19	(0)	1	(0)	39	(0)
V C Drakes (163)	80	(0)	2	(0)	120	(0)
M A Ealham (164)	141	(37)	3	(1)	201	(57)
S C Ecclestone (165)	6	(0)	0	(0)	6	(0)
K P Evans (166)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
M A Feltham (167)	13	(0)	0	(0)	13	(0)
M V Fleming (168)	101	(19)	1	(0)	121	(19)
A P Grayson (169)	77	(0)	5	(0)	177	(0)
O D Gibson (170)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
F A Griffith (171)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
C L Hooper (172)	256	(155)	9	(7)	436	(295)
R C Irani (173)	320	(50)	10	(1)	520	(70)
A D Jadeja (174)	153	(6)	0	(0)	133	(6)
K D James (175)	146	(146)	4	(4)	226	(226)
B P Julian (176)	165	(0)	4	(0)	245	(0)
J H Kallis (177)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S R Lampitt (178)	116	(25)	8	(2)	276	(65)
S Lee (179)	269	(100)	12	(6)	509	(220)
C C Lewis (180)	113	(0)	8	(0)	273	(0)
G W Mike (181)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A C Morris (182)	100	(40)	2	(1)	140	(60)
Mushtaq Ahmed (183)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D J Nash (184)	14	(14)	0	(0)	14	(14)
A L Penberthy (185)	50	(7)	6	(0)	170	(7)
S M Pollock (186)	75	(51)	7	(3)	215	(111)
D A Reeve (187)	231	(63)	4	(2)	311	(103)
G D Rose (188)	42	(12)	16	(2)	362	(52)
V S Solanki (189)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A W Smith (190)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N M K Smith (191)	50	(2)	9	(2)	230	(42)
P A Smith (192)	2	(0)	1	(0)	22	(0)
J N Snape (193)	64	(64)	0	(0)	64	(64)
J P Stephenson (194)	133	(0)	0	(0)	133	(0)
C M Tolley (195)	34	(0)	2	(0)	74	(0)
Wasim Akram (196)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M Watkinson (197)	102	(45)	9	(0)	282	(45)
G Welch (198)	44	(9)	10	(2)	244	(49)
C M Wells (199)	279	(168)	2	(0)	319	(168)
V J Wells (200)	153	(35)	4	(3)	233	(95)
P N Weekes (201)	203	(19)	8	(7)	363	(159)
C White (202)	96	(20)	12	(0)	336	(20)
J R Wileman (203)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)

Wicketkeepers (225-256)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
A N Aymes (225)	197	(50)	13	(4)	457	(130)
R J Blakey (226)	113	(34)	9	(1)	293	(54)
K R Brown (227)	111	(33)	6	(1)	231	(53)
M Burns (228)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S P Griffiths (229)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
W K Hegg (230)	237	(74)	10	(1)	437	(94)
P C L Holloway (231)	132	(28)	1	(0)	152	(28)
G J Kersey (232)	8	(0)	6	(0)	128	(0)
J A Knott (233)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
K M Krikken (234)	204	(77)	14	(6)	484	(197)
D G C Ligertwood (235)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S A Marsh (236)	192	(127)	6	(4)	312	(207)
C P Metson (237)	16	(2)	8	(3)	176	(62)
P Moores (238)	72	(0)	2	(2)	112	(40)
N R Mongia (239)	11	(0)	1	(0)	31	(0)
P A Nixon (240)	237	(0)	12	(4)	477	(80)
W M Noon (241)	51	(27)	9	(5)	231	(127)
K J Piper (242)	49	(32)	6	(2)	169	(72)
Rashid Latif (243)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S J Rhodes (244)	123	(59)	6	(3)	243	(119)
D Ripley (245)	62	(23)	3	(0)	122	(23)
R J Rollins (246)	104	(39)	15	(2)	404	(79)
R C Russell (247)	104	(64)	7	(3)	244	(124)
N F Sargeant (248)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
C W Scott (249)	134	(57)	16	(10)	454	(257)
A D Shaw (250)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R J Turner (251)	64	(54)	13	(5)	324	(154)
L N Walker (252)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R J Warren (253)	237	(0)	3	(0)	297	(0)
P Whitticase (254)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R C J Williams (255)	9	(0)	1	(0)	29	(0)
S C Willis (256)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)

Bowlers (275-404)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
P R Adams (275)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J A Afford (276)	6	(4)	16	(9)	326	(184)
U Afzaal (277)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
P Aldred (278)	9	(0)	5	(0)	109	(0)
C E L Ambrose (279)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S J W Andrew (280)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Aqib Javed (281)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M C J Ball (282)	41	(41)	4	(4)	121	(121)
S R Barwick (283)	4	(0)	1	(0)	24	(0)
S J Base (284)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R T Bates (285)	43	(43)	6	(3)	163	(103)
J D Batty (286)	84	(40)	3	(3)	144	(100)
M A V Bell (287)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J E Benjamin (288)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
W K M Benjamin (289)	140	(18)	6	(2)	260	(58)
M M Betts (290)	11	(2)	20	(8)	411	(162)
M P Bicknell (291)	32	(0)	8	(0)	192	(0)
S D Birbeck (292)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
D J P Boden (293)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J Boiling (294)	31	(9)	4	(2)	111	(49)
J N B Bovill (295)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M T Brimson (296)	0	(0)	4	(0)	80	(0)
J E Brinkley (297)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S J E Brown (298)	49	(34)	19	(9)	429	(214)
A R Caddick (299)	9	(2)	6	(4)	129	(82)
R J Chapman (300)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G Chapple (301)	44	(3)	8	(1)	204	(23)
J H Childs (302)	1	(1)	2	(2)	41	(41)
V P Clarke (303)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
C A Connor (304)	39	(0)	13	(8)	299	(160)
K E Cooper (305)	5	(0)	5	(0)	105	(0)
D M Cousins (306)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A P Cowan (307)	3	(0)	3	(0)	63	(0)
D M Cox (308)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R P Davis (309)	93	(50)	4	(0)	173	(50)
J M De La Pena (310)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N A Derbyshire (311)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R R Dibden (312)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M Dimond (313)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A D Edwards (314)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S W K Ellis (315)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S Elworthy (316)	136	(20)	12	(6)	378	(140)
A R C Fraser (317)	20	(0)	8	(0)	180	(0)
E S H Giddins (318)	9	(0)	11	(1)	229	(20)
A F Giles (319)	20	(3)	14	(5)	300	(103)
D Gough (320)	104	(43)	11	(5)	324	(143)
R J Green (321)	14	(0)	6	(0)	134	(0)
J C Hallett (322)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G M Hamilton (323)	0	(0)	2	(0)	40	(0)
A J Harris (324)	18	(18)	5	(5)	118	(118)
P J Hartley (325)	67	(52)	12	(8)	307	(212)
D W Headley (326)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J E Hindson (327)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J G Hughes (328)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A P Igglesden (329)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R K Illingworth (330)	133	(35)	5	(0)	233	(35)
M C Ilott (331)	95	(24)	10	(1)	295	(44)
P W Jarvis (332)	73	(0)	4	(1)	153	(20)
R L Johnson (333)	44	(0)	2	(0)	84	(0)
G Keedy (334)	29	(17)	2	(0)	69	(17)
N M Kendrick (335)	16	(0)	2	(0)	56	(0)
S G Kenlock (336)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J I D Kerr (337)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A A Khan (338)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N Killeen (339)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
R J Kirtley (340)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A Kumble (341)	7	(0)	3	(0)	67	(0)
R P Lefebvre (342)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J Lewis (343)	48	(20)	6	(1)	168	(40)
J D Lewry (344)	0	(0)	5	(2)	100	(40)
M J McCague (345)	105	(28)	10	(2)	305	(68)
D E Malcolm (346)	3	(3)	17	(8)	343	(163)
N A Mallender (347)	0	(0)	1	(1)	20	(20)
P J Martin (348)	54	(0)	11	(9)	274	(180)
R S C Martin-Jenkins (349)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R J Maru (350)	28	(28)	3	(3)	88	(88)
S M Milburn (352)	61	(9)	8	(3)	221	(69)
D J Millns (353)	86	(4)	15	(6)	386	(124)
A D Mullally (354)	8	(0)	18	(6)	368	(120)
T A Munton (355)	54	(0)	10	(0)	254	(0)
P J Newport (356)	68	(0)	3	(0)	128	(0)
R W Nowell (357)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J Ormond (358)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G J Parsons (359)	81	(46)	6	(2)	201	(86)
M M Patel (360)	56	(12)	16	(10)	376	(212)
R M Pearson (361)	8	(0)	6	(0)	128	(0)
D B Pennett (362)	27	(12)	7	(0)	167	(12)
N C Phillips (363)	100	(0)	4	(2)	180	(40)
R A Pick (364)	18	(8)	3	(3)	78	(68)
A R K Pierson (365)	28	(8)	6	(0)	148	(8)
A C S Pigott (366)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
V J Pike (367)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S L V Raju (368)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
A R Roberts (369)	0	(0)	3	(3)	60	(60)
M A Robinson (370)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
I D K Salisbury (371)	54	(0)	3	(0)	114	(0)
Saqlain Mushtaq (372)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
B N Schultz (373)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J P Searle (374)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D J Shadford (375)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
K P Sheeraz (376)	3	(0)	1	(0)	23	(0)
A Shenyar (377)	13	(12)	6	(0)	133	(12)
K J Shine (378)	84	(5)	14	(5)	344	(105)
C E W Silverwood (379)	46	(46)	5	(3)	146	(106)
G C Small (380)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A M Smith (381)	73	(41)	13	(3)	333	(101)
D J Spencer (382)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J Srinath (383)	50	(0)	6	(0)	170	(0)
E J Stanford (384)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R D Stemp (385)	107	(79)	4	(1)	187	(99)
P M Such (386)	8	(7)	13	(5)	268	(107)
J P Taylor (387)	0	(0)	8	(0)	160	(0)
S D Thomas (388)	52	(28)	7	(3)	192	(88)
J B Thompson (389)	61	(37)	7	(0)	201	(37)
M J Thursfield (390)	30	(0)	3	(0)	90	(0)
H R J Trump (391)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A J Tudor (392)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
P C R Tufnell (393)	13	(0)	7	(6)	153	(120)
S D Udal (394)	60	(0)	2	(0)	100	(0)
A P van Troost (395)	6	(0)	3	(0)	66	(0)
C A Walsh (396)	14	(14)	8	(8)	174	(174)
A Walker (397)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A E Warner (398)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
S L Watkin (399)	16	(16)	14	(5)	296	(116)
Waqar Younis (400)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N F Williams (401)	68	(14)	8	(0)	228	(14)
J Wood (402)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
T N Wren (403)	15	(0)	1	(0)	35	(0)
G Yates (404)	5	(0)	0	(0)	5	(0)

☐ One point is awarded for each run, 20 points for each wicket. Wickets include catches and stumpings by wicketkeepers, but not catches by fielders

☐ *Source: TCCB/PA Cricket Record*

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITC

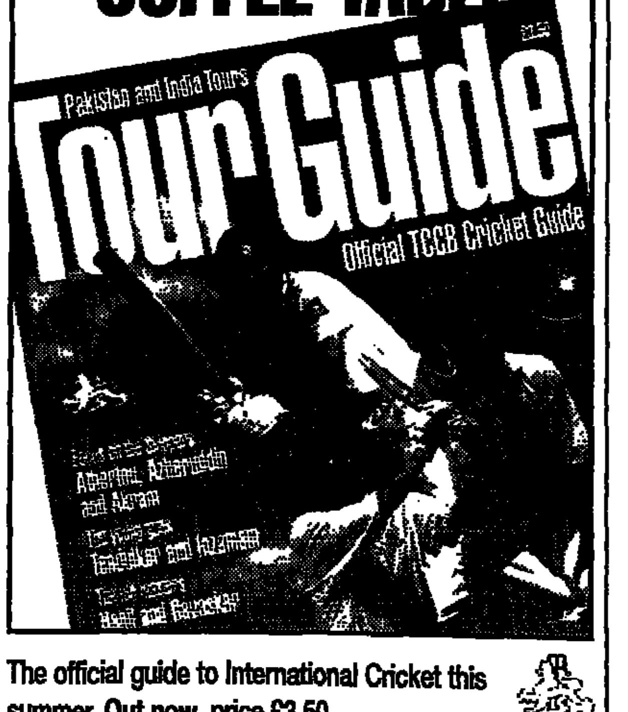
The transfer line will open at 6am each Thursday and will close at 5pm the following Wednesday. All transfers made during this period will be applied to team selectors' teams prior to the commencement of the next first-class match (*transfers made from today until 5pm next Wednesday will be applied to teams for the beginning of the match on Thursday May 30*). Transfers may only be made by telephone by calling

0891 866 964

A team selector may transfer up to two players in his/her team per transfer period. Whether you are transferring one or two players, your team must be rendered correct according to the format of five batsmen, one all-rounder, one wicketkeeper and four bowlers and including one (but no more than one) rising star by the end of the call.

You may check your team score and position in ITC each week by calling the ITC Check Line on

0891 774 779



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TCCB

Sporting dreams turned into virtual reality

Sporting dreams often used to begin with nothing more sophisticated than a tin can. Children would fuel their fantasies by kicking cans when they could not get a ball. With a can at their feet, they were a Matthews or a Finney, playing for their country, dreaming *dreams, on their way to glory.*

Today, children do things differently. They like their sporting dreams to begin on computer screens, and their fantasies to be animated and digitalised. The modern merchants of the tin can know just what the youngsters like — and give it to them. So today, little more than a javelin throw from the almost finished Olympic stadium in Atlanta, Georgia, there opens a fantasy land designed to spark a whole new generation of sporting dreamers.

Here, at the touch of a few buttons, they claim, you can experience instantly what it is like to be an Olympic competitor. Forget the years of painful training, forget those nerve-racking national trials — you simply need to leap into the world of virtual reality. This being Atlanta, the 12-acre sporting theme park is grandly styled "Coca-Cola Olympic City" and participants are promised that they will experience instantly what it is like to be an Olympic champion for a day.

The idea of getting a taste of the Olympics through virtual reality is a fascinating one. The fantasy starts at the gate. As you pass through the entrance to Olympic City, you are greeted by a mock-up of a vast stand *full of spectators, with sound effects* of cheering and shouting to convince you that you are stepping into the Olympic stadium itself.

'Forget all the years of training'

Once inside, you can try your skill, speed and strength over Olympic sports ranging from the traditional, such as gymnastics, to the latest, such as baseball. If you want to chance your legs at sprinting, you are taken to real starting blocks and talked through the technique of the crouch start by the Olympic sprinter, Jackie Joyner-Kersee, who lines up life-sized on a giant video screen beside you.

At the gun, however quickly you explode from the blocks, you glimpse from the corner of your eye Joyner-Kersee romping away from you. After just ten metres, through the magic of an electronic beam, the computerised scoreboard will tell your "time" for 100 metres, and how you would have been humbled by the Olympic sprinter.

If you are a slow starter (as is, incidentally, multi gold medal-winner Carl Lewis), you might prefer to test your athletic potential on a gymnastics balance beam. Leotard-clad Shannon Miller, a United States gymnast, makes it look simple as you step out on to a real beam. If you glance down (not recommended), you will be unnerved by the illusion that you are balancing many yards above a gymnasium floor. But this is virtual reality land and, if you topple, you find it is only inches.

This interactive technology is still in its infancy, but it does give tantalising glimpses of how it might be used by the serious sportsman of the future. For instance, in Olympic City you can sit astride a mountain bike and simulate a treacherous, twisting Olympic-style descent. The trail unwinds on a massive screen as you pedal, the shouts of the crowd and fellow competitors fill your head, and the bike beneath you bucks and turns as it follows the track.

For a competitor in a real event, such race rehearsal could work wonders. With the aid of technology, you could ride a simulated course endlessly, until you were perfectly at home on every bump and bend.

Being the United States, much space is reserved in Coca-Cola's Olympic dreamland for interactive games of basketball and baseball. You can play one-to-one against the *basketball Dream* Team member, Grant Hill, and if, you are brave enough — and well helmeted and padded — you can pitch and hit against baseball legends. To crown it all, the real Walter Mittys can even collect a gold medal at a simulated awards ceremony, and get themselves pictured on the victory rostrum.

'Be Olympic champion for a day'

All great fun and games. But can virtual reality give anyone a real taste of sport? Or would children today be better off kicking around the tin cans that the sponsor's drink comes in? It would be wonderful to think that, among the hundreds of thousands who will pass through the gates of the interactive Olympic City between now and September, when it will be torn down, there will be some future champion *whose sporting ambition* was sparked and fanned by the gadgets, the screens, the computers and the hype. But we may *have to* wait until 2008 to see if it has worked.

In the meantime, there are a couple of things that any would-be champion, his ambition whetted by virtual victories, might do well to remember. In the real world, there are years of effort that come before stepping on to the rostrum to collect those gold medals. They cannot be had instantly by beating your opponent on screen.

And, across the road from Olympic City, it will not just be *the flesh-and-blood* competitors that make things different *for the real athletes.* In the virtual reality pavilions there is air-conditioning, cool mist spray machines and climate control that keeps the world at a comfortable 72F.

At the opening of the Olympic stadium last Saturday, Jonathan Edwards, the triple jump world record-holder from Britain, was forced to a halt because of cramp and dehydration. The temperature at the trackside was said to have reached 112F. In Atlanta, in the real Olympic Games, that for the competitors is the *brutal reality.*

JOHN BRYANT

Britain failing to take the lead as Olympics head towards the ballroom

Dancing around a question of sport

Ruth Gledhill follows steps being taken to redefine a typical tearoom diversion

More than 3,000 dancers and as many spectators from 44 countries will descend on Blackpool *tomorrow* for the start of the foremost event in the ballroom dancing calendar, the British Open championships.

When they step on to the Wintergardens dance floor, Marcus and Karen Hilton, from Rochdale, are confidently expected to claim their fifth British Open professional title by winning the modern championship, dancing waltz, tango, foxtrot and quickstep.

In some of the other categories, however, Britain's world domination appears to be on the wane, at a time when ballroom dancing is moving closer to inclusion in the Olympic Games.

The International Dance Sport Federation, ballroom dancing's Zurich-based governing body, was recognised provisionally by the International Olympic Committee last year, raising hopes that dancing could feature in the 2004 Games.

Other countries, such as Japan, Germany and Sweden, treat their leading dancers as sports stars equal to footballers and athletes, giving the results of dance competitions on sports news programmes that are a far cry from *Come Dancing.*

Amateurs there are permitted to earn money from teaching and are also encouraged by generous sponsorship. Competitions, including some in this country, are televised about every two weeks by Eurosport, the Paris-based satellite channel.

In Britain, by contrast, the image of ballroom dancing remains one of a faintly-humourous tearoom activity indulged in by those in their fading years.

Although dancewear companies such as ChrisAnne and Supadance are generous in the sponsorship of couples and events, financial backing from outside the dance world is almost impossible to obtain.

'They lose pounds in sweat as they dance'

As the funding and recognition given to dancing in other countries increases in proportion to its decline in Britain — the BBC has abandoned coverage of the United Kingdom championships this year — dancers fear that the British conviction that ballroom dancing has no right to call itself a sport could soon cost this country a host of Olympic medals.

Bill Irvine, a former world champion who will chair the evening board of 11 judges in Blackpool this week, said: "There is no question that dancing has art in it. But the amount of hours that goes into practising and training makes it a sport as well.

"At the British, couples start dancing at 2pm and do seven rounds over the next 12 hours. It is like running a 100-metre race seven times. The whole hall screams its head off for their favourite couple. They lose pounds in sweat as they dance, and most work out daily in a gym to achieve the high levels of fitness they need." As a judge, he will assess style, movement and music. Years on the floor have given him the ability to assess in an instant a clean "topline", the alignment of a couple's arms, head and shoulders, together with the quality of their footwork.

Complaints that dancing is not suitable for the Olympics have been made by purists who believe no sport should be acknowledged as such unless a victory is clearly quantifiable by distance, speed or height.

Diving, however, which is not contested on that basis, is one of the oldest Olympic sports. Synchronised swimming, dressage, ice skating and rhythmic and artistic gymnastics are all accepted at the Games, the latter including floor exercises performed to music.

Gill McKenzie, the championship organiser since 1981, said the competitors' training programmes would match that of anyone in any other sport. "Anyone who came to Blackpool to see the British would realise instantly that competitive dancing in England is indeed a sport and could not be regarded as merely a hobby or leisure interest," she said.

Ken Bateman, a former champion with his wife, Blanche Ingle, and now a leading judge, believes there can be no question over whether dance is a sport or an art. "It is physical, but it also has grace and beauty. People see the pretty dresses floating round the floor, but they don't see the concentration or the muscles working *underneath* the finery."

No matter how hard their *rivals work, the Hiltons* should prevail: the closest contest should be that for the *runners-up position.*

The titles and placings in the professional Latin and the *amateur modern and Latin* could, however, be more openly contested and, aftera three-year run *when the amateur* modern title was in British hands, it could this year go to a non-British couple, Massimo Georgiani and Alessia Manfredini, from Italy.

Marcus and Karen Hilton are hoping to win their fifth British Open professional title

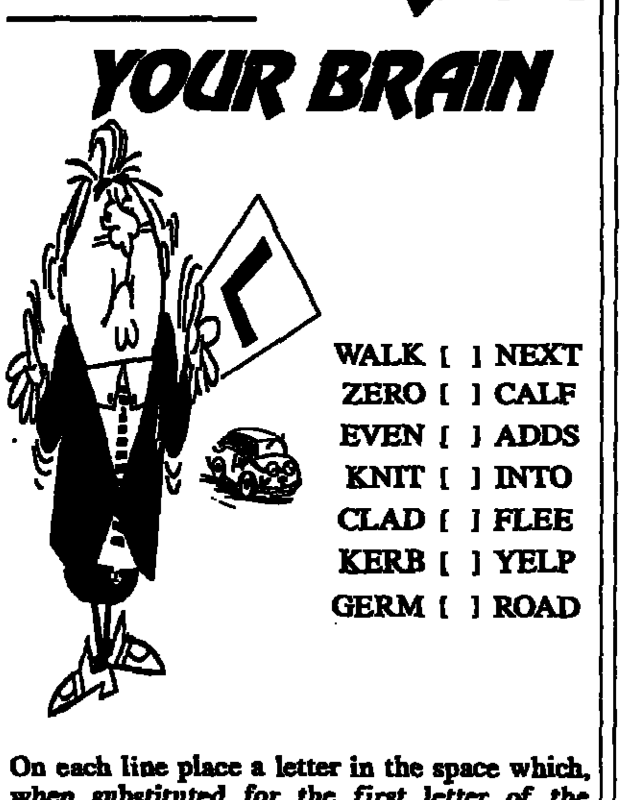
Should they succeed in defeating the favourites, Christopher Hawkins and Hazel Newberry, from London, the erosion of Britain's dominance would be further *underlined.*

The competition starts to-*morrow* with the senior modern championships, for couples aged over 35, where Britain's Chris and Ann Free*man are expected to be among* the leading six couples.

McKenzie, predicted some *intense battles.* "In the professional Latin, there have been several split partnerships re*sulting in exciting* new couples," she said. "There will be a terrific battle to get into the *final because there are* some really good couples."

TEST DRIVE

YOUR BRAIN



WALK [ ] NEXT
ZERO [ ] CALF
EVEN [ ] ADDS
KNIT [ ] INTO
CLAD [ ] FLEE
KERB [ ] YELP
GERM [ ] ROAD

On each line place a letter in the space which, when substituted for the first letter of the word either side, will form another word in each case. The seven letters used will give another word reading downwards. What is it ?

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Mensa

Wales travel warily

WALES leave for an eight-match rugby union tour to Australia today that begins in Perth a week on Saturday and ends after the second international in Sydney on June 22. They will leave with a mixture of guarded optimism and trepidation (Gerald Davies writes).

To travel south to the Antipodes is a journey vested with dread for Wales. When they went to New Zealand in 1988, more than a century of points were scored against them in two international matches. Three years later, Australia scored 63 points in the single international in Brisbane.

The squad leaves in a buoyant mood. Yet a poor showing in the World Cup last summer and only a solitary victory in the recent five nations' championship are hardly the stuff of confidence.

ITINERARY: May 29: v Western Australia (Perth). June 2: v Australian Capital Territory (Canberra). 5: v New South Wales (Sydney). 8: v Australia (Brisbane). 12: v Australia B (Brisbane). 15: v New South Wales Country (Moree). 18: v Victoria (Melbourne). 22: v Australia (Sydney)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

DEMOGORGON

(a) A *terrible* deity, whose very name was capable of producing the most horrible effects. He is first mentioned by the vitriolic fourth-century Christian polemicist, Lactantius, who in so doing broke with the superstition *that* the very reference to *Demogorgon by name brought death and disaster. "Must I call your master to my aid,/ At whose dread name the trembling furies quake,/ Hell stands abashed, and earth's foundations shake?"* Milton: "The dreaded name of Demogorgon."

MANTICORE

(a) A fabulous beast usually given as having the head of a man, the body of a lion, a porcupine's quills and the tail of a scorpion. *From the Persian* mardkhora *a man-eater. It is mentioned by* Ctesias, a Greek living in the late fifth and early fourth centuries BC who wrote a history of Persia. It features in medieval bestiaries and also in heraldry, where it generally has horns and the tail and feet of a dragon. Martinus Scriblerus says that it was "the most noxious animal that ever infested the earth".

BUBASTIS

(c) The ancient capital of Lower Egypt, named after Bast, the local cat-headed goddess. The Greeks identified her with Artemis and the cat was sacred to her.

TARA

(c) The hill of Tara, County Meath, 20 miles north of Dublin, was the ancient seat of the High Kings of Ireland until the sixth century AD. Only a series of earthworks *now remains to mark* the site of Tara's halls. Here were held a national assembly, the Feis of Tara, and gatherings for music, games and literary contests. Here too was the Lia-Fail, or Coronation Stone, which is supposed to have been Jacob's pillow taken from Tara to Scotland.

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The appetite for blood

The Bloody Protest. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

Just as the history of Irish nationalism is constantly being updated, so this documentary about *the 1916 Easter Rising is being* repeated, this time taking account of the latest IRA bombings in London. Presenter Finlan O'Toole's closing statement remains the same, however: "The 1916 uprising *will not be consigned to the past* until its power is no longer felt in the present." Ireland has had more than its fair share of politicians, poets and martyrs. Because memories die hard there, *The Bloody Protest has a deep reservoir* of nationalist passion to draw upon. It fixes 1966, with its celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Easter Rising, as the year when the memory of blood whetted the appetite for it.

The Purple, the Blue and the Red. *Radio 4, 8.00pm.*

I understand the final instalment of Anthony Howard's anatomy of Church-State relations will set even more cats among the pigeons. Last week Lord Runcie revealed that, as Archbishop, he had knowingly ordained practising homosexuals. Tonight's programme deals with the increasing emphasis on management in the Church of England. Dr George Carey pooh-poohs the suggestion that this new drive for efficiency amounts to the "Thatcherisation" of the Church. But he worries that, although they are creating a Church that is better organised financially, and better governed synodically, its constituency is much smaller.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Anne Robinson **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Frances Edmonds **7.00** The News Huddlines **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones **9.45** Gospel Train **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme incl **6.55, 7.55** Racing preview **8.35** The Magazine incl *10.35* Euronews **11.30** Health News **12.00** Midday with Mair incl Moneycheck with Katie Derham **12.35pm** International Football: China v *England in Beijing* **2.40** *Ruscoe on Five* incl at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** Nationwide, incl **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra with Valerie *Sanderson, incl at 7.20 Sport 7.35 David* Gower's Cricket Weekly. David Gower and his guests round up the week's events **9.05** SportsAmerica, with Allon *Byrd 9.35 American Graffiti 10.05 News* Talk **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours — Early Call, with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn

TALK RADIO

6.30am The Breakfast Show with Paul Ross **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **5.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Sport **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST. 5.00am** Newsdesk **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** World Today **7.30** Sports *International* **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Network UK **9.00** News in German **9.15** Composer of the Month **9.45** Health Matters **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Sports International **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf **12.00** World News **12.30pm** Meridian **1.00** News in German **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Assignment **2.00** Newshour **3.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack: X Press **4.00** News **4.05** Sport **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.00** News **6.10** World Today **6.25** Take Five **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Assignment **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.01** Outlook **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** John Peel **10.00** World News **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian (Books) **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** World Today *11.45 Sport 12.00 News* **12.10am** Take Five **12.15** Soundbyte **12.30** Blues World **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Good Books **1.45** Britain Today **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** *Outlook 2.55 Words of Faith* **3.00** Newsday **3.30** Thirty-Minute Drama **4.00** News **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Travel Guide **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyle **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Mendelssohn (Overture for wind instruments, Op 24); *Rimsky-Korsakov (Suite* Tsar Saltan); Donizetti, arr Liszt (Valse de concert sur deux motifs de Lucia et Parisina); Boccherini (String Quintet in B flat, Op 39 No 1); Ireland (Legend); Soler (Concerto No 3 in G)

9.00 Morning Collection with **Paul Gambaccini.** Zavateri (Concerto No 1 in G); Saint-Saëns (Carnival of the *Animals); Brahms (Piano* Quartet No 3 in C minor, Op 60)

10.00 Musical Encounters. Bath *Festival. Mozart (Adagio* and Fugue in C minor); **10.10** *Artist of the Week*: Roger Vignoles, piano. Schubert (Winterreise, excerpts) **10.30** Kodaly (Sonata Op 8, 3rd movement); Schumann (Die Lotosblume Op 25 No 7; Die Kartenlegerin Op 31 No 2); Szymanowski (Five Pieces, Nos 1 and 2); Chausson (Poème); Ravel (Don Quichotte à Dulcinée); Mansurian (Capriccio); Britten (Tema-Sacher); Debussy *(Prélude à l'après-midi d'un* faune); Bartok (Hungarian Song); Bartok, arr Michael Thomas (Bagpipes, *Mikrokosmos); Gounod (La* Barcarola)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Respighi

1.00pm Bel Canto Voices. *Patrick* O'Connor's guest is Dennis O'Neill (4/4)

2.00 Schools: Radio Showcase *2.05 In the News 2.25* Something to Think About **2.40** Music Workshop

3.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Justin Brown. Weber (Ovetrture: Der Freischütz); Sibelius (Romance in C; Valse triste); Schumann (Symphony No 4 in D minor)

3.55 Vanbrugh Quartet. Beethoven (String Quartet in G, Op 18 No 2); Bartok *(String Quartet No 5);* Beethoven (String Quartet in C sharp minor, Op 131)

5.00 The Music Machine, with *Tommy Pearson*

5.15 In Tune, with Geoffrey Baskerville. Includes Scarlatti (Sonata in G); Brahms *(German Folk Songs)*

7.30 BBC Philharmonic under Charles Mackerras; Ora Shiran, violin. Beethoven (Overture: Zur Namensfeier, Op 115; Romance No 2 in F, Op 50); Mahler (Symphony No 7)

9.10 Jelly Mountain. With Ivor Cutler

9.25 Peter Crossley-Holland. Alison Wells, *soprano*; Keith Swallow, piano; John Turner, recorder, perform music by Peter Crossley-Holland

10.00 Music Restored. *Introduced* by Chris de Souza. Includes Montéclair (Les Syrènes) (2/4)

10.45 Night Waves. Humphrey *Carpenter explores Bristol*

11.30 Composer of the Week: Clara Schumann (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes **2.25** Choral music by Gade, Grieg and Mendelssohn **4.00** The Auer Quartet **5.00** Sequence

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) *6.00* News Briefing incl Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.25, 8.25** Sports **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Face the Facts (r)

9.30 On the Ropes. John Humphrys asks prisons boss Derek Lewis how he coped when the Home Secretary sacked him (3/4)

10.00 News; Brighton Rock (FM only). The final episode of the Graham Greene story. With Steven Mackintosh, Claire Skinner and John Benfield (r)

10.30 Woman's Hour (FM only)

10.30-1.00pm Cricket: England v India (LW only)

11.30 From Our Own Correspondent (FM only)

12.00 News; You and Yours (FM only)

12.25pm Inspiration (FM only). A quiz about inventions, discoveries and design, chaired by Chris Stuart. With Sir Lewis Wolpert, Sue Nelson *and Johnny Ball* **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World At One (FM only), with Nick Clarke

1.20-1.55 Cricket: England v India (LW only)

1.40 The Archers (FM only) **1.55** Shipping

2.00 News; One Day I'll Fly Away (FM only), by Helen Kluger. With Christine *Kavanagh, Jack Ellis and* Kerry Fox

2.00-5.50 Cricket: England v India (LW only)

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift (FM only)

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope (FM only). Paul Allen sees Peter Whelan's play, *The Herbal Bed*

4.45 Short Story: Too Perfect (FM only). By Jo Hughes

5.00 PM (FM only) **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather

5.55-6.30 Cricket: England v India (LW only)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (FM only)

6.30 Life, Death and Sex with Mike and Sue (FM only). Robert Duncan and Julia Hills star as the sofa-bound daytime duo (5/6)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Bloody Protest. See Choice

8.00 The Purple, the Blue and the Red. See *Choice*

8.45 From Their Own Correspondent. A new six-part series in which writers and journalists from around the world send letters home offering their personal views on contemporary Britain

9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Presented by Frederick Dove

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Next of Kin (9/10)

11.00 Julie Enfield *Investigates* the Net and the Canal, by Nick Fisher (2/4)

11.30 Ad Lib (FM only). Robert *Robinson talks to five* matchmakers (r)

11.30 The Champions (LW only)

11.45 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00 News incl **12.27am** Weather

12.30 The Late Book: The Stone Diaries (9/10) *(r)* **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson and Jane Gregory**

هكذا من الاصل

What price a star vehicle without its star?

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

No sooner had he arrived, than he was gone. Mean, moody and magnificently well lit, John Madson walked off into the sunset, a man alone with his thoughts. **Madson** (BBC1) was over. But don't worry. I'm sure it/he will be back. Quite who will be in any second series, however, is rather less clear after last night's concluding episode. Ian McShane obviously, you couldn't leave the star, co-executive producer and back-seat director out. But after him . . . it's anybody's guess.

Wearing his producer's hat, McShane cast uncertainty around with budget-trimming abandon. Just when things were going so well with the fair Magda (Joanna Kanska), a fit of pique about the difference between law and justice meant he just had to, had to, resign from Hearnley & Partners. "I was going to tell you," he said, fixing her with one last lingering, unblinking look.

"Does that mean I can't be in the second series?" sobbed Kanska: "I'll do anything . . . I'll wear flat shoes . . ." For a moment McShane hesitated (hmm, no more acting on tip-toe . . .) but then he was gone, a producer alone with next year's cash-flow. Good lighting cameramen, after all, do not come cheap.

Apart from Kanska, Madson's resignation also casts doubt over the future of Charles Gray, which would be a shame as he has been wonderfully enjoyable as senior legal buffer, Sir Ranald. On the plus side, however, it would allow the confusing little problem of Madson's tormentor at work, George (Jonathan Coy) being a dead ringer for Madson's tormentor everywhere else, DI Rourke (Matthew Marsh) to be sorted out. Perhaps they could turn out to be long lost brothers in series two.

Just about the only person looking guaranteed a second outing is Jayne Ashbourne. For those who have difficulty keeping up with Madson's women (some have a girl in each port, Madson has a woman in each decade) Ashbourne plays the youngest, Sarah, who, it is sometimes difficult to remember, is also his widowed daughter-in-law. Last night, she announced she was pregnant.

So was the pause that followed. I mean, I knew they flirted and that they had even enjoyed one meaningful kiss, but they hadn't, had they? Drat, I must have missed it.

Actually, they hadn't. Nor was the baby Dominic's, the boyfriend she had somehow found time for between mourning and flirting. It was Rob's . . . Madson is about to become a grandfather. Given that Rob died in episode one, this was something of a surprise — either things had been moving a lot slower than we thought or young Sarah hadn't been paying attention in her biology lessons. On the other hand, it did explain why her T-shirts never seem to fit.

I hope McShane brings them all back, together with a producer/director combination strong enough to say "no" occasionally. *Madson* has been a good effort — well written, well acted and well directed. But shorn of its self-indulgence, it would be even better.

No sooner has *A Knife to the Heart*, a history of transplant surgery, finished, than along comes **QED: Brave Hearts** (BBC1). If the BBC shows much more open-heart surgery, I'll be able to carry it out myself.

The programme turned out to be brief history of what might be done instead of transplants. Formerly patients with chronic heart failure but without the possibility of a transplant died. These days there is hope but, as the film painfully made clear, not a lot.

The film followed the attempts of a Bristol heart surgeon, the dashing Professor Angelini, to introduce a controversial technique pioneered in Brazil by Dr Randas Batista, part-time surgeon and part-time cattle farmer. Batista's technique is controversial because it involves cutting a hole in the main pumping chamber of the heart, removing a large piece of it and sewing the heart up again.

"Everyone is afraid of the ventricle," explained Batista: "They feel that if you cut it in half the patient will die — but that's not true." Sadly — as slow-motion and heavenly choral music rather unsubtly heralded — it turned out it was true for three of the four elderly and very ill patients operated on in Bristol, although one of the deaths was reportedly unconnected with the surgery.

By spending time with two of the patients, Emma Walker's and John Hayes-Fisher's powerful film demonstrated the immense pain and misery that chronic heart failure causes, both to its sufferers and those who care for them. Whether they are guilty of raising false hopes, only time and an international pilot study will show.

For about 15 minutes there appeared to be real hope for **Postcards from the Country** (BBC2). The pace of change in the Welsh mining valleys is so rapid that even Richard Mabey couldn't fail to be caught up in it. The change, as he allowed others to make clear, is biological rather than economic — the valleys may be a lot greener than they were but, as the former miners who now spend their days taking tourists down a museum pit said, there is little in the way of real work.

That, however, quickly proved quite enough of the present day. Back on went the sepia-tinted spectacles, out came the black and white film and we were off, wandering totally predictably down memory lane. Only a couple of years ago this technique of juxtaposing oral history with old footage seemed a genuine television breakthrough. But its relentless exploitation, largely by BBC2, has quickly reduced it to televisual wallpaper. Producers with nothing new to say, should not be allowed in the archives.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (54014)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (18472)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (4124491)

9.20 Style Counsel (s) (7237052)

9.45 Kilroy (s) (6561694)

10.30 Good Morning (s) (91236)

12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (1547762)

12.05pm Call My Bluff (s) (5789694)

12.35 Going for Gold with the complete Henry Kelly (s) (4279014)

1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (28859)

1.30 Regional News and weather (62466588)

1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (69987101)

2.00 The Flying Doctors. Double bill of Australian drama (r) (Ceefax) (s) (98878)

3.30 Playdays (r) (s) (2206033) **3.50 Peter Pan and the Pirates** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2226897) **4.10 The Wizard of Oz** (Ceefax) (s) (5575694) **4.35 Mud** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2502878) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (7954410) **5.10 The Ant and Dec Show** (Ceefax) (s) (6803217)

5.35 Neighbours (504965)

6.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (965)

6.30 Regional news magazines (217)

7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (2878)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (101)

8.00 Wildlife on One: Gannets — the Storm Birds. David Attenborough narrates this documentary about the gannet, a remarkable bird which spends most of its life riding high winds and heavy storms at sea and covers vast areas in search of prey. It comes ashore only to lay its eggs, and the British coast, with its many small, steep-sided islets, provides the perfect venue, hosting the greatest gannet spectacle in the world (Ceefax) (s) (1526)

8.30 Airport. (4/6) Documentary series looking behind the scenes at Heathrow (Ceefax) (6043)

9.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1743)

9.30 Absolutely Fabulous: Poor. With her former husband threatening to cut her alimony, Edina fears the worst — poverty (r) (Ceefax) (s) (26304)

10.00 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Jill Dando team up with the forces of law and order and vigilant viewers to solve crime (976588)

10.45 Question Time from Manchester. The members of the panel are the General Secretary of the TUC, John Monks, the columnist Simon Heffer and MPs Angela Rumbold and Clare Short. (Ceefax) (796033)

11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (Ceefax) (s) (637217)

12.00 FILM: High Tide (1987) starring Judy Davis and Jan Adele. A backing singer for an Elvis Presley impersonator is living an aimless life on the fringes of showbusiness. When she is stranded in a strange town with no money, she is reduced to living in a caravan park. There she meets a young girl to whom she feels drawn, without being able to say why. Directed by Gillian Armstrong (Ceefax) (s) (736347)

1.35am Weather (3889231)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Modelling Planetary Motion (7819052) **6.25** Easing the Pain (7805859) **6.50** Coping with Queues (5821052)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (4219120)

7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (39965) **8.00 Blue Peter** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (7977526) **8.25 Brum** (r) (5945439) **8.40 The Record** (s) (8439101)

9.05 Daytime on Two: The Limit (7478033) **9.45 Writing and Pictures** (Ceefax) (s) (5398149) **10.00 Playdays** (Ceefax) (s) (2892255) **10.25 Storytime** (s) (2912052) **10.40 Jeunes Francophones** (8453965) **11.05 Space Ark** (s) (2534584) **11.15 Buildings and Builders** (3479781) **11.35 Tudors and Stuarts** (Ceefax) (s) (8274236) **12.00 Shakespeare — the Animated Tales** (Ceefax) (s) (16439) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (37410) **1.00 Lifeschool** (s) (31941588) **1.25 Revista** (s) (65687897) **1.45 Numbertime** (s) (62476965)

2.00 Brum (r) (44469385) **2.10 The Andrew Neil Show** (s) (7721472) **3.00 News** (Ceefax) and weather (7581588)

3.05 The Natural World: Islands in the African Sky (Ceefax) (s) (9163897)

3.55 News (Ceefax) and weather (6625762)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (830) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (994) **5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show** (Ceefax) (s) (4124255) **5.40 Carrier's Caribbean** (300236)

5.55 Global Warning (221781)

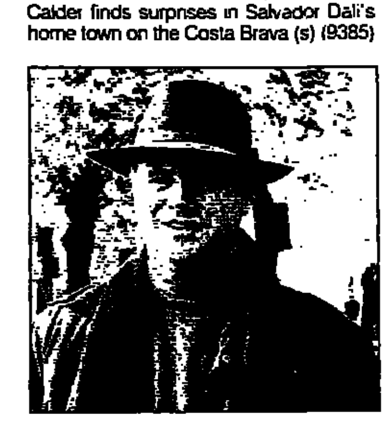
6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (Ceefax) (s) (939014)

6.45 Match of the Day. Highlights of the football match between China and England (s) (903163)

7.30 Out and About (743) **N.I.: 7.30-8.00** Election Focus; **WALES: 7.30-8.00** Homeland

8.00 Cricket One-Day International. Highlights of the England v India match at the Oval (s) (3520)

9.00 The Travel Show. Alan Cumming and Saffron Burrows travel to Palm Springs and spend a night under the stars in Joshua Tree National Park, and Simon Calder finds surprises in Salvador Dali's home town on the Costa Brava (s) (9385)



Presenter Michael Elliott (9.30pm)

9.30 The Poisoned Chalice (Ceefax) (s) (747994)

10.20 Close Up. Director Terry Gilliam chooses a scene from Fellini's *8½* (r) (s) (257052)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (678694)

11.15 Late Review. Mark Lawson, Tim Paulin and Suzanne Moore discuss the week's cultural highlights, including Mike Leigh's new film *Secrets & Lies* (s) (260859)

12.00 Picture This. The last year in the serving lives of Lord Methuen's faithful retainers (r) (Ceefax) (s) (90540)

12.30am-6.00 Learning Zone

CHOICE

Airport
BBC1, 8.30pm (Scotland, May 31)

Three intercut stories make up the latest bulletin from Heathrow. A woman is reported to be stripping off in the ladies. This may sound like a fun item, but Mrs Moses, who is travelling to Israel, is old, distressed and needs sympathetic handling. Meanwhile, at a nearby hotel, a group of aerophobics are attending a course to overcome their fear of flying. Captain Douglas Ord's tuition seems to overdo the black humour: "I must admit that if both wings fall off, you do have a pretty serious problem." The test will come when the aerophobics take a one-hour flight on a British Airways 757. In Terminal 4 two jovial customs officers, Garth and Cath, are on the lookout for drug smugglers. Flights from Amsterdam, known to the pair as Sin City, are particular targets.

Hollywood Pets
ITV, 8.30pm

Like many a Hollywood star who has moved into comfortable retirement, Cheeta relaxes by a swimming pool with a beer and a cigar. The veteran of 18 Tarzan films still relishes his former celebrity, clapping in delight when one of his old movies comes up on television. That Cheeta is a chimpanzee should occasion no surprise. *Hollywood Pets* is a daft series but deliberately so. The sillier the stories, it is assumed, the better we shall like them. Cheeta is up against strong competition. We meet the cockroaches from *Alien 3*, a fearsome lizard who once worked with Marlon Brando, and a wrestling tiger. For older viewers there are memories of Lassie and of a television series from the 1960s in which a horse played table tennis. Human actors, including Linda Gray and Stefanie Powers, also feature but, of course, they are hopelessly upstaged.

Witness: Russia's Holy War
Channel 4, 9.00pm

One of the unforeseen by-products of the collapse of communism has been a flood of Christian missionaries into Eastern Europe. The cameras follow two American evangelists, Rick Amato and Alfred McCroskey, as they try to save souls on the streets of Moscow and St Petersburg and bring the Christian message to bemused Russian villagers. Unable to compete with their slick presentation, the Russian Orthodox Church sees these evangelists as a threat. The police have to be called when the rival sects confront each other in public. Adding to the Orthodox Church's discomfort is a former Siberian policeman who claims to be the son of God. The Communists promise that if they return to power foreign evangelists will be banned. McCroskey and Amato press on regardless.

The Poisoned Chalice: Summit Bloody Summit
BBC2, 9.30pm

With supreme irony, as it turned out, Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979 as the leader of the party of Europe. Labour might be hopelessly split on the issue but the Conservatives, who had led Britain into Europe, seemed to have no such doubts. Mrs Thatcher, however, was determined to secure a reduction in Britain's contribution and she was not prepared to ask nicely. Part three of this engrossing series charts the abrasive relations between Britain and the rest of Europe during the Thatcher years. With most of the key names contributing, we get blow-by-blow accounts. The blows may have been only verbal but they were wounding. Not the least fascinating of the story is how Mrs Thatcher was able to pass off defeats as victories. **Peter Waymark**

ITV

6.00am GMTV (7119174)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (Teletext) (s) (7212743)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (2879304)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (Teletext) (6114781)

10.35 This Morning (50546675)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (1543946)

12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (4205439)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (4273830) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (1599781) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (19464507) **2.25 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman** (r) (Teletext) (s) (7737033)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (7598878)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (7597149)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (9883679) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (1928830) **3.50 Rupert** (r) (2202217) **4.15 Samson Superslug** (Teletext) (s) (5569033) **4.40 Crazy Cottage** (Teletext) (s) (2976694)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (9456491)

5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (991548)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s) (593410)

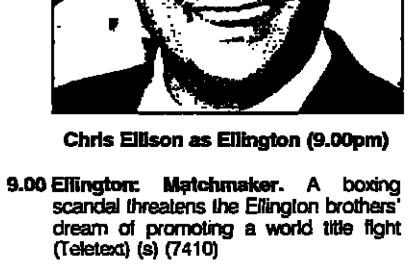
6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (751323)

7.00 Emmerdale. Villagers are scandalised when they read a newspaper article about some of the residents (Teletext) (s) (7946)

7.30 3-D. Eight-year-old Jordan Roberts, who has a birthmark on his face, reveals how he feels about being constantly stared at (s) (897)

8.00 The Bill: Party On. Deakin and Croft deal with a gang of delinquents at an Ecstasy party (Teletext) (6694)

8.30 Hollywood Pets (Teletext) (s) (5101)



Chris Ellison as Ellington (9.00pm)

9.00 Ellington: Matchmaker. A boxing scandal threatens the Ellington brothers' dream of promoting a world title fight (Teletext) (s) (7410)

10.00 News and weather (Teletext) (79174)

10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (893526)

10.40 On the Line. Live studio discussion on one of the week's big issues (690965)

11.10 FILM: Silhouette (1991) starring Faye Dunaway, David Rasche and John Terry. A female architect witnesses a brutal murder in a small Texan town, when she reports the incident to the police, they disbelieve her story. But, the killer knows who she is and kidnaps her daughter to lure her into a one-to-one showdown. Directed by Carl Schenkel (956014)

12.35 Carnal Knowledge (2764908)

1.40 Not Fade Away (s) (1796279) **2.40 Shift** (1882786) **3.35 Late & Loud** (r) (s) (1763415)

4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (86540)

5.00 Garden Calendar (r) (39144)

5.30 Morning News (95095)

As HTV WEST except:

6.25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (751323)

7.30-8.00 Trains (897)

10.40 Welsh & Wealthy (690965)

11.10 Hunter (748052)

12.05am 3-D (4440163)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.55 Emmerdale (4273830)

1.25-1.55 Cross Wits (31946033)

1.55 Home and Away (39228946)

2.25 Entertainment Today (19467694)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (6231878)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9456491)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (49255)

10.30 Westcountry News (884878)

10.45 Top Guns (754897)

11.15 Millionaires (744410)

11.45 Prisoner Cell Block H (900965)

12.40am Carnal Knowledge (9399163)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55pm Home and Away (4273830)

1.25 Cross Wits (31946033)

1.55 A Country Practice (69991304)

2.20 Entertainment Today (19468323)

2.50-3.20 High Road (2082323)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9456491)

6.25 Central News and Weather (578101)

6.55-7.00 Life Line (348217)

10.40 London Bridge (690965)

11.10 Revelations (250897)

11.40 Bodies of Evidence (628859)

12.40am Carnal Knowledge (9399163)

2.35 Shift (5705095)

3.30 Customs Classified (3453908)

4.15 Jobfinder (6554892)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55pm Emmerdale (4273830)

1.25 Home and Away (31946033)

1.55 Shortland Street (69991304)

2.20 Entertainment Today (19468323)

2.50-3.20 Surprise Chefs (2082323)

5.10 Home and Away (9456491)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (753)

6.30-7.00 Grass Roots (385)

10.40 Film: Return to the Blue Lagoon (86636435)

12.40am Phoenix (9399163)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 The Adventures of T-Rex (5835255) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (34410) **9.00 The Golden Girls** (81743) **9.30 Ysgolion: Equinox Plus** (7913830) **10.25 Geographical Eye** (2998472) **10.45 The Mix** (2070472) **11.00 The Jacobites** (3476694) **11.20 Off the Walls** (9044830) **11.40 The French Programme** (7502410) **12.00 Australia Wild** (29697) **12.30pm Hullabaloo** (39878) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (44897) **1.30 Terrytoons** (62482526) **1.40 Film: Dentist in the Chair** (92748656) **3.15 Ricki Lake** (6298694) **4.00 Secrets of the Moor** (526) **4.30 Fair Game** (410) **5.00 5 Pump Uned 5** (8052) **5.30 Fifteen to One** (762) **6.00 Newyddion** (959052) **6.15 Heno** (477859) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (871120) **7.25 Corws** (835043) **8.00 Pam, Sam?** (4236) **8.30 Newyddion** (3743) **9.00 Pris Y Farchnad** (5052) **10.00 Karaoke** (5670656) **11.05 Film: Catchfire** (732014) **12.55am Dispatches** (5411188)

6.35am The Adventures of T-Rex (r) (5835255)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (34410)

9.00 The Golden Girls (r) (Teletext) (s) (81743)

9.30 Schools: Equinox Plus (7913830) **10.25 Geographical Eye** (2998472) **10.45 The Mix** (2070472) **11.00 The Jacobites** (3476894) **11.20 Off the Wall** (9044830) **11.40 The French Programme** (750241) (s)

12.30pm Sesame Street (r) (13033) **1.30 Hullaballoo.** Followed by **Alfie Atkins** (r) (39241897)

1.55 The Boat (b/w). A comedy starring Buster Keaton as a man who builds himself a boat in order to lead a life of adventure (69999946)

2.20 FILM: Boomerang (1947, b/w). A real-life thriller starring Dana Andrews and Arthur Kennedy. Directed by Elia Kazan. (Teletext) (176502)

4.00 Secrets of the Moor (Teletext) (526) **4.30 Fifteen to One** (Teletext) (s) (410) **5.00 Ricki Lake** (Teletext) (s) (1545052) **5.45 Terrytoons.** Followed by **Murun Buchstansangur** (394675)

6.00 NBA 24/7. Basketball news and action from America (675)

6.30 Roseanne (r) (Teletext) (s) (255)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (153052)

7.50 The Slot (111410)

8.00 Wild Britain. (5/6) Disused gravel pits naturally transform themselves into attractive lakes that are home to a variety of wildlife, and are proving invaluable to frogs and toads when it comes to spawning (Teletext) (s) (4236)

8.30 Home to Roost. Comedy series starring John Thaw as a divorced father whose student son (Reece Dinsdale) arrives unexpectedly to live with him (r) (Teletext) (3743)

Evangelist Rick Amato (9.00pm)

9.00 Witness: Russia's Holy War (Teletext) (s) (5052)

10.00 NYPD Blue. Simone and Sipowicz "rob" the mob when a wire-tapping operation goes wrong (Teletext) (s) (609304)

10.55 Whose Line Is It Anyway? Off-the-cuff comedy chaired by Clive Anderson (r) (Teletext) (s) (472507)

11.30 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (r) (s) (93675)

12.00 Australia Wild (4160163)

12.10am Is This Your Life? Andrew Neil talks to Sir Jimmy Savile (r) (Teletext) (s) (9077076)

12.55 Dispatches (r) (Teletext) (9116796)

1.40 FILM: Dry Rot (1956, b/w) starring Ronald Shiner, Brian Rix and Sidney James. A comedy about three none-too-honest bookies who try to substitute a racehorse in order to recover their lost fortunes. Directed by Maurice Elvey (533188). Ends at **3.15**

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am Undun (61588) **9.00** Press Your Luck (7617679) **9.20** Love Connection (9359526) **9.45** Oprah Winfrey (4125526) **10.40** Jeopardy! (9516491) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (3664052) **12.00** Beechy (21385) **12.30pm** International Football China V England (495410) **3.00** Court TV (5746) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (6706651) **4.15** Undun (7009217) **5.00** Star Trek (1878) **6.00** The Simpsons (1656) **6.30** Jeopardy! (5236) **7.00** LAPD (2507) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4120) **8.00** Through the Keyhole (1255) **8.30** Animal Practice (5502) **9.00** The Commish (97830) **10.00** Murder One (158217) **12.30am** Star Trek (65540) **1.30** Late Show with David Letterman (5919298) **2.15** Hit Mix Long Play (83983883)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

9.30am Beyond 2000 (20946) **10.30** ABC Nightline (38675) **1.30pm** CBS News (97120) **2.30** CBS News (85014) **3.30** Beyond 2000 (3014) **6.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton (93033) **7.30** Sportsline (81472) **8.30** Reuters Reports (8304) **11.30** CBS News (68762) **12.30am** ABC World News (63182) **1.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton Replay (69637) **2.30** Reuters Reports (81434) **3.30** Beyond 2000 (93279) **4.30** CBS News (75786) **5.30** ABC World News (37095)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am To Joy (1949) (45897) **8.00 The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938)** (49878) **10.00 A Child's Cry for Help (1994)** (53472) **12.00 Kiss Me Goodbye (1982)** (22101) **2.00pm Young Sherlock Holmes (1985)** (21897) **4.00 Moon Zero Two (1969)** (9410) **6.00 A Child's Cry for Help (1994)** (44071385) **7.40 US Top Ten** (952694) **8.00 Shadowlands (1993)** (49387323) **10.15 True Lies (1994)** (12959061) **12.35am Car 54, Where Are You? (1994)** (2837989) **2.05 Someone She Knows (1994)** (1998502) **3.35 Wilder Napalm (1993)** (42295298)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Enemy Below (1957) (14637588) **5.45 Lost Horizon (1937)** (33496385) **8.00 She's Having a Baby (1988)** (88120) **10.00 A Nightmare on Elm Street Part 2: Freddy's Revenge (1985)** (13217) **11.30 The Music Lovers (1971)** (55745410) **1.35-3.20am The Osterman Weekend (1983)** (469095)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Saraband for Dead Lovers (1948) (43439) **8.00 Tom Sawyer (1986)** (70410) **9.00 The Treasure of Swamp Castle (1987)** (7943656) **10.25 Witness to Murder (1954)** (27979033) **12.00 The Vengeance of She (1967)** (20743) **2.00pm Dishonored (1931)** (29439) **4.00 The Garden (1994)** (89323) **5.00 The Three Musketeers (1992)** (4588) **6.00 My Family Treasure (1993)** (47025) **8.00 Forrest Gump (1994)** (49376217) **10.20 The Movie Show: Cannes Special** (331526) **10.55 When a Man Loves a Woman (1994)** (71120781) **1.00am Adventures of a Private Eye (1977)** (213618) **2.40 Forrest Gump (1994)** (67357724) **5.10 The Garden (1994)** (34085021)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Muppet Babies (90192304) **6.30** Ducktales (36539052) **7.00** Quack Attack (87417385) **7.30** Rescue Rangers (87429120) **8.00** Darkwing Duck (50257304) **8.30** Wonderland (50256675) **9.00** Lamb Chop's Play-along! (50270255) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (54811033) **10.00** Muppet Babies (36520304) **10.30** Pooh Corner (50276439) **11.00** Under the Umbrella Tree (97670588) **11.30** Dumbo's Circus (97671217) **12.00** Disney (29076174) **12.55pm** FILM: The Witching of Ben Wagner (28188101) **2.30** Making of Muppet Treasure Island (45282965) **3.00** Ducktales (47256507) **3.30** Quack Attack (45287410) **4.00** Rescue Rangers (45273217) **4.30** Darkwing Duck (45262101) **5.00** Boy Meets World (47251052) **5.30** Danger Bay (45286781) **6.00** Tarzan (45283694) **6.30** Dinosaurs (45274946) **7.00** The Torkelsons (47248588) **7.30** Tall Tales and Legends (26114168) **8.30** Entertainment Special: Bruce Springsteen (85906526) **9.30-10.00** Dinosaurs (54802385)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (80255) **9.00** Swimming (97255) **10.00** Motors (11507) **11.00** Live Tennis (94782163) **3.45pm** Mountainbike (113491) **4.15** Football (82308014) **6.00** Football (99613675) **7.45** Truck Racing (669255) **8.15** Offroad (323236) **9.15** Pro Wrestling (926897) **10.00** Darts (61439) **11.00** Sailing (35526) **11.30** Motorcycling Magazine (84965) **12.00-12.30am** Formula One (76908)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am PGA Tour (84520) **7.30** Wrestling (75323) **8.30** Racing (28323) **9.00** Aerobics (19675) **9.30** Windsurfing (56694) **10.00** Skiff Sailing (60385) **10.30** England v India First One Day International (1693830) **6.30pm** Sports Centre (250588) **6.35** International Football China v England (80384168) **9.00** Boots 'n' All (33656) **10.00** Sports Centre (989014) **10.15** England v India First One Day International (345878) **12.15am** Futbol Mundial (371927) **12.45** Boots 'n' All (323540) **1.45** International Football, China v England (21184811) **4.15-4.30** Sports Centre (76084182)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00pm Futbol Mundial (4988781) **7.30** Skiff Sailing (9310304) **8.00** Trans World Sport (9297588) **9.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA Cadillac NFL Class (9290675) **11.00** Skiff Sailing (6371897) **11.30** NASCAR Super Trucks (4861965) **12.30-1.00am** PGA Tour (7267927)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Thought for the Day **4.05** Worship **4.15** Kids TV **4.30** Carman Times Two **5.00** Voice of Victory with Kenneth and Gloria Copeland **5.30** Christian Music **5.45** This Is Your Day with Benny Hinn **6.15** TBA **6.45-7.00** Good Morning Europe

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (8050323) **7.55** As the World Turns (2155656) **8.50** Peyton Place (7385410) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (1133830) **10.10-11.00** Another World (4201385)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (6356588) **11.30** Great Sports Vacations (6357217) **12.00** Discovering Israel (7876323) **12.30pm** Floyd on Oz (3039588) **1.00** Getaway (7016746) **1.30** Around the World in 30 Minutes (3038859) **2.00** To the Ends of the Earth (2783679) **3.00** Globetrotter (4943472) **3.30** Around the World in 30 Minutes (7697656) **3.55-4.00** Holiday Shop (99939410)

Gary Sinise and Tom Hanks in *Forrest Gump* (Movie Channel, 8pm)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century (6370168) **5.00** Memories of 1972 (4967052) **6.00-7.00** Biography: Bonnie and Clyde (3047507)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00am The Six Million Dollar Man (9884347) **2.00** FILM: Killdozer (2989786) **3.30-4.00** Robotech (4227892)

TLC

9.00am Simply Painting (1322323) **9.30** Grow with Joe (7354946) **10.00** Dogs with Dunbar (5241859) **10.30** This Old House with Steve and Norm (1328507) **11.00** Homemaker (6890588) **11.30** Craftwise (6591217) **12.00** Julia Child (1319859) **12.30pm** The Frugal Gourmet (7358762) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (7199255) **1.30** Furniture to Go (7357033) **2.00** Our House (1526014) **2.30** The Garden Show (1556101) **3.00** It's a Vet's Life (1545149) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (1568946)

UK GOLD

7.00am Pentaghost (7169014) **7.30** Neighbours (7188149) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (1301830) **8.30** EastEnders (1300101) **9.00** The Bill (1324781) **9.30** The Sullivans (7356304) **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small (7177033) **11.00** Bullseye (6892946) **11.30** Gibberish (7015236) **12.05pm** Sons and Daughters (55921507) **12.30** Neighbours (7350120) **1.00** EastEnders (5731236) **1.35** Sykes (6858192) **2.15** Brush Strokes (7393439) **2.50** Butterflies (9874014) **3.30** The Bill (1560304) **4.00** Minder (6816526) **5.00** Every Second Counts (7311694) **5.45** 'Allo 'Allo! (6819526) **6.25** EastEnders (4870052) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (2730385) **8.00** Bullseye (1548236) **8.30** Home James (1527743) **9.00** Miss Marple: The Body in the Library (2769897) **10.00** The Bill (4393217) **10.35** Bottom (9111781) **11.10** The Sweeney (2957439) **12.15am** Classic Sport: Match of the Day (1177057) **1.10** Public Eye (9094076) **2.05-3.00** Shopping (9490873)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (39255) **6.30** Degrassi Junior High (27946) **7.00** Ready or Not (58304) **7.30** California Dreams (77439) **8.00** Byker Grove (56120) **8.30** Hallway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (55491) **9.00** Pink Panther (48743) **9.30** Garfield and Friends (83762) **10.00** Eek the Cat (41526) **10.30** Creepy Crawlers (75255) **11.00** Casper and Friends (69507) **11.30** Dinobabies (60236) **12.00** Tiny TCC (66507) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (85323) **1.30** Sesame Street (86052) **2.30** Tiny TCC (3439) **3.00** Eek the Cat (6897) **3.30** Pink Panther (5656) **4.00** California Dreams (7491) **4.30-5.00** Byker Grove (3675)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Dungeons and Dragons (84781) **6.30** Galaxy High School (77675) **7.00** Mr Men (4526491) **7.05** Turtles (3870101) **7.45** Rugrats (5398149) **8.00** Doug (4067101) **8.15** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (4080052) **8.30** Rocko' (26965) **9.00** Biker Mice (17217) **9.30** Pet Shop (54236) **10.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (5946878) **10.05** Bananas in Pyjamas (5945149) **10.10** Babar (9276304) **10.35** Topsy and Tim (7962385) **10.40** Barney (7992526) **10.45** Bananas in Pyjamas (7991897) **10.50** Bananas in Pyjamas (7972762) **11.00** Children's BBC (34007) **12.00** Magic School Bus (20781) **12.30pm** Grimmy (58052) **1.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (34043) **1.30** Visionaries (57323) **2.00** Pet Shop (1946) **2.30** Children's BBC (21830) **3.30** Turtles (2168) **4.00** The Ferals (1675) **4.30** Rugrats (4873101) **4.45** Doug (4878656) **5.00** Sister Sister (5526) **5.30** Clarissa (1439) **6.00** Alex Mack (1052) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (2304)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Time Travellers (1570781) **4.30** Nature/Nature (1576965) **5.00** Africa the Hard Way (1529101) **6.00** Lifeboat (1557830) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (5645217) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (1577694) **8.00** The Professionals (2747675) **9.00** Top Marques (6803052) **9.30** Disaster (7378526) **10.00** Best of British (2760526) **11.00-12.00** The Dinosaurs! (7176304)

BRAVO

12.00 Robin Hood (1305385) **12.30pm** William Tell (7352588) **1.00** Jason King (7340743) **2.00** Department S (5239014) **3.00** The Saint (6899859) **4.00** FILM: UFO Cafe (1538491) **6.00** The Green Hornet (1551656) **6.30** Department S (5632743) **7.30** Dead at 21 (1564120) **8.00** Planet of the Apes (2734101) **9.00** Twin Peaks (2754965) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Toxic Avenger (6881830)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Different Strokes (5782) **7.30** Entertainment (8588) **8.00** Benson (4410) **8.30** Wings (3197) **9.00** Soap (36255) **9.30** Taxi (45588) **10.00** Entertainment (21410) **10.30** The Cel Block (92007) **12.30am** Soap (32076) **1.00** Taxi (21144) **1.30** Laverne and Shirley (61250) **2.00** Entertainment (65163) **2.30** The Critic (84298) **3.00** Dr Katz (41908) **3.30-4.00** Rocky and Bullwinkle (68250)

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (8061526) **7.00** Esther (5739120) **7.30** Young and Restless (2871912) **8.30** Going to Pot (6012588) **9.00** Taste of Health (6868859) **9.35** Kate and Allie (5365089) **10.05** Jerry Springer (2346410) **11.00** Young and Restless (7804830) **11.55** Brookside (6518052) **12.30pm** Dangerous Women (7827168) **1.25** Catchword (9928439) **2.00** Agony Hour (5817472) **3.00** Live at Three (8091101) **4.00** Infatuation UK (9406385) **4.30** Crosswits (2711897) **5.05** Lingo (15537656) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (9426149) **6.00** Bewitched (9416762) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (9407014) **7.00** Brookside (5876897) **7.35** Joker's Wild (7294897) **8.00** Street Legal (1576472) **9.00** FILM: Between Two Women (72211675) **10.50** Entertainment Now! (8341033) **11.00-12.00** The Erogenous Zone (5755168)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Boogies Diner (8014) **5.30** Night Hood (7255) **6.00** Batman (4168) **6.30** Catchphrase (8120) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (8878) **7.30** Me and the Boys (4304) **8.00** The Beiderbecke Connection (97878) **9.00** Ruth Rendell: No More Dying Then (77014) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (70101) **11.00** Neon Rider (67052) **12.00** Trivial Pursuit (25298) **12.30** Me and the Boys (76892) **1.00** Batman (90298) **1.30am** All Together Now (14366) **2.00** Big Brother Jake (18279) **2.30** Neon Rider (70366) **3.30** All Together Now (11366) **4.00** Trivial Pursuit (92231) **4.30-5.00** Night Hood (71163)

MTV

7.30am David Lee Roth Rockumentary (79897) **8.00** Morning Mix Featuring Cinematic (909323) **11.00** Star Trax (55217) **12.00** Greatest Hits by Year (75743) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (31149) **3.00** Select MTV (68410) **4.00** Hanging Out (72472) **5.30** Dial MTV (6385) **6.00** Soap Dish (6526) **6.30** The Big Picture (7878) **7.00** Star Trax (80588) **8.00** MTV Special (99236) **9.00** X-ray Vision (42830) **10.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (45014) **11.00** Headbangers' Ball (34743) **1.00am** Videos

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (8466287) **9.00** Cafe VH-1 (2565526) **12.00** Heart and Soul (3043781) **1.00pm** Vinyl Years (3029101) **2.00** Brinsley Forde (4885087) **3.00** Into the Music (5782491) **6.00** Happy Hour (3049965) **7.00** VH-1 for You (8213526) **8.00** Thursday Review (8299946) **9.00** Lightning Seeds (8202410) **10.00** Vinyl Years (8212897) **11.00** Music First (2868043) **12.00** VH-1 to 1: Bryan Adams (6101076) **12.30am** The Bridge (7236057) **1.00** Gary Numan (9886705)

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm on satellite, 24 hours on cable, including 5pm Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6pm-7pm Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran (86209656) **7.30** Asian Morning (28575859) **8.30** Zee Presents (47509120) **9.00** Sitaron Ke Karvan (47590472) **9.30** Your Zindagi (57723033) **10.00** Tara (86217675) **11.00** Shakti (18862859) **11.30** Uroosa (17123878) **12.30pm** Buniyaad (57734149) **1.00** FILM: Hai Meri Jaan (64768697) **4.00** Top Ten (18886439) **5.00** Zone (19378149) **5.30** Rang Tarang (79693149) **6.30** Zee and U (59410781) **7.00** Teri Bhi Chup Meri Bhi Chup (19358385) **7.30** Galaxzee (59416965) **8.00** News (19367033) **8.30** Andaz (19386168) **9.00** Serial (65553149) **10.00** Horror (47511965) **10.30** Yaadon Ke Rang (47597385) **11.00** Commander (18887168) **11.30-12.00** Aap Ki Farmaish

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm Little Women (1949) (58366168) **9.15 Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (1954)** (64978089) **11.15 Brass Target (1978)** (54073633) **1.15am The Trollenberg Terror (1958)** (47697417) **2.45-5.00 Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (1954)** (86790873)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

PERFORMANCE

7.00pm Art Blakey **8.00** Arie **8.30** Delibe's Coppelia from the Kirov **10.15** Dame Peggy Ashcroft **11.45** Arie **12.00-1.00am** Ellington

ATHLETICS 42
MODAHL LEFT ON SIDELINES FOR EUROPEAN CUP

SPORT

THURSDAY MAY 23 1996

RACING 43
WAR HORSE AWAITS EPSOM CALL TO ARMS

Publication of Illingworth's book overshadows Texaco Trophy

England start under cloud of controversy

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

TIMING is a virtue that at present seems beyond English cricket and yesterday, by a sorry combination of the sun refusing to shine and Raymond Illingworth refusing to keep quiet, the launch of an international season in which wounds need healing and hope needs refreshing stood at risk of sabotage.

The brooding clouds that hung low over the Oval all day were symbolic of deeper, more divisive issues than the simple climatic threat to the opening Texaco Trophy international against India today. The issues involve Illingworth and the ill-timed serialisation of a book that ought not to have been published while he is chairman of the England selectors.

Such is the nature of the book, breaching the acknowledged confidentiality of selection debates and specifically criticising individuals in the England team, that he may not remain as chairman very much longer. Illingworth is a proud man as well as a stubborn one and any attempt to censure him, a possibility the disciplinary committee of the Test and County Cricket Board is now investigating, could provoke premature resignation.

This is something that would severely embarrass his employers, which may be one persuasive reason for them to do nothing about it. But there is plainly a case to answer.

Even politicians usually wait to leave office before publishing their diaries. It does not especially worry me that Illingworth has had his say on the tiresome Devon Malcolm affair, which, until now, had been falsely portrayed as a one-sided issue, black and white in every conceivable sense.

The central point of concern must be the principle of a man making money out of publicising the internal workings of his job while he is at the helm of the national team. It should not have been allowed to happen — let alone in this most sensitive of weeks — and if there is not some anguish this morning in the offices of the TCCB, whose ultimate responsiblity it is to safeguard the integrity of the game, then complacency has taken root.

OVAL DETAILS

ENGLAND (from): M A Atherton (captain), A D Brown, G A Hick, G P Thorpe, M P Maynard, R C Irani, A J Stewart, C C Lewis, D G Cork, N M K Smith, P J Martin, D Gough, M A Ealham.

INDIA (probable): M Azharuddin (captain), V Rathore, S R Tendulkar, N S Sidhu, S V Manjrekar, A D Jadeja, N R Mongia, A Kumble, J Srinath, P L Mhambrey, B K V Prasad.

Umpires: R Julian and P Willey.

Match referee: C Smith (West Indies).

Television: Sky Sports 10.30-18.30 (live), 22.15-00.15 (highlights); BBC2 20.00-21.00 (highlights). Radio: Radio 4 (long wave) from 10.30.

Weather: Cloudy with possible outbreaks of rain.

This is a delicate matter, potentially disruptive to an England team striving to regroup, refocus and restore public loyalty after the disappointments of the winter. The players spent yesterday, in the words of the captain, Michael Atherton, "trying to induce the feel-good factor". They are not exactly aided in this by having their first game overshadowed by the indiscretions of the chairman.

Atherton, to his credit, remained notably jolly. When asked to consider the possibility of being asked to speak to any disciplinary hearing on the Illingworth issue, he joked: "I'll plead the Fifth Amendment." Pressed, he responded: "If I am asked by a committee to make a comment, then I will do so. Unless that happens, I am not interested in raking up the past."

The captain, indeed, was admirably upbeat about the present, especially about the innovative practice and preparation methods being employed by the new coach, David Lloyd.

Yesterday they included an unfathomable fielding routine, in which England players still had their traditional difficulty hitting a single stump, videos showing their own team playing somewhat better than the Indians, and the first rendition of an uplifting tape of team music — "extremely patriotic", according to Atherton.

The mood of the side was visibly good. But then, it would be, wouldn't it? "There is always plenty of optimism at this stage of the season," Atherton agreed. "There would be something very wrong if there was not. The slate is wiped clean, no-one is dwelling on what went wrong in the past — and, anyway, our recent record at home is pretty good."

He is right about this, but the crowd that will fill the Oval this morning will be thinking not of the Texaco Trophy win over West Indies last year but of the fact that England ended their winter overseas having lost nine consecutive one-day internationals against Test opposition. It is this memory that must be purged over the next four days.

MARC ASPLAND

Brown was in confident mood as he prepared for his England debut yesterday

Interest will centre upon the debut of Alistair Brown as Atherton's opening partner and of either Ronnie Irani or Mark Ealham — just possibly, both — as all-rounders. And there will be great curiosity over the altered pattern of one-day batting, the split, as Atherton says, into "a three-phase innings — the whop at the start, the solid, quick-running bit in the middle, keeping wickets intact for another whop at the end".

In pursuit of this, England will have a fluid batting order, with Neil Smith padded up to come in if Brown falls early. The final make-up of the side, however, has to wait until the pitch emerges from under the covers. It would be a great shame if the need for them has compromised the usual, ideal Oval surface for one-day cricket, although England stand to benefit more than India from any help on offer to the seam bowlers.

The Indians have not bowled well on tour so far, a point that was evidently stressed to them forcibly on Tuesday evening by their manager, Sandeep Patil. "I lost my temper for the first time last night," Patil said yesterday. "The players were quite shocked but they now know I am going to be tough on them in future. We have not bowled or fielded very well and we have to put that right."

Mohammad Azharuddin, the India captain, is fit to play despite bruised fingers, but he looked out at the London weather with doleful eyes. "We have not had a warm day since we arrived," he said. Above his head, the Texaco posters blazed their catchphrase for the series: "The heat is on." Yesterday, it applied only to the England chairman of selectors.

Patil's stage, page 45
ITC standings, page 45

Lee's locks give no option but to cut and run

Russell Kempson on the fruits of a *furore that is not to a manager's taste*

Shaven, bleached or tousled; dreadlocked, kinked or close-cropped. Footballers often head the field in follicular fashion, the sport's young bucks ever keen to show off their daring and trend-setting dash. But pineapple-shaped?

Little did Jason Lee, the Nottingham Forest forward, realise what a storm in a fruit stall he would create when he unveiled his bizarre style on an unsuspecting public. He could not have imagined, either, that it would all end in tears, with Frank Clark, the Forest manager, placing him on the transfer list and part-blaming his cranial decoration.

"I've had no alternative but to put Jason up for sale," Clark said. "The fans could relate to him, because he put his heart and soul into everything he did, but they've picked up on their mickey-taking and made his job difficult."

Clark also accused Frank Skinner and David Baddiel, presenters of *Fantasy Football League*, the cult satirical television programme, of leaving Lee's life in tatters ... or chunks. "A couple of people on TV, who know nothing, have helped Jason become victimised," he said. "It has had a bad effect on him." Clark might have mentioned that Lee, a lanky striker signed from Southend United for £200,000, scored only one goal since the programme first featured him in the new year having scored seven before Christmas.

Though Clark tried to head off the controversy yesterday by moderating his comments, the BBC was unimpressed. "It is a light-hearted programme with good-natured banter," a spokesman said. "It is not intended to offend." Lee has twice turned down invitations to appear on the show.

Yet never have a player's locks caused such a fuss. Vinnie Jones and Julian Dicks frequently prefer the bald, aggressive look; Tony Daley, the Wolverhampton Wanderers winger, has switched from a tuft on the forehead to a tiny Buddhist pigtail; and Andy Bernal, the Reading midfield player, once had what appeared to be a demented tarantula crawling across his scalp.

Jamie Cureton, of Norwich City, sported a shocking green rinse and Bobby Mihaylov, the Bulgaria goalkeeper, is blissfully happy with his hair implant *à la* Graham Gooch.

Anyway, what's wrong with a pineapple? Oviedo, King Ferdinand of Spain's director of mines in the New World, said in 1535: "There are no other fruits to equal them for their beauty of appearance, delicate fragrance and excellent flavour."

Perhaps Lee, 25, should seek a new club in Brazil or Paraguay, where *Ananas comosus*, of the *Bromeliaceae* family, originates from.

Lee: decline

Debra Pieri, of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau, said yesterday: "We're extremely pleased that Mr Lee has chosen to adopt a 'pineapple' hairstyle. We are sure that, as a healthy and active sportsperson with a trendy hair-do, he would be an ideal character to promote pineapples as a nutritious and cool kind of snack."

Lee's predicament has at least shed some light on an obscure yet oft-used football phrase. It sounds something like: "If he's a footballer, my posterior is a pineapple." He can at least take consolation.

England cash in dividend from Neville brothers' family business

From Andrew Longmore in Peking

THE Neville brothers, Gary and Phil, viewed the Great Wall of China yesterday. Tonight, they will add a brick of their own to history in the Workers' Stadium in Peking by becoming only the second set of brothers to represent England this century. If they go on to become as famous as Jack and Bobby Charlton, England's first international against China A will be remembered as a red letter day in more ways than one.

"It was an unforgettable moment when I was told I was in the side," Phil Neville, at 19 two years the younger of the pair, said. "Hopefully, it will be the start of a long road for both us," Gary added. The last time the two played together other than for their club, Manchester United, was for Boundary Park Under-16s, the side that also produced David Platt. In the final weeks of United's run to the Double, Phil has been keeping his brother out of the side.

"I don't see why they should not play for England for years to come," Terry Venables, the England coach, said. "They're good professionals, very level-headed and to get them at this young age speaks volumes for them." Yet, though Phil will win his first cap and Gary his tenth, neither was the first international in the family. Sister Tracey has played netball for England.

"It's an incredible thing for the family being able to turn on the television and watch both their sons play for England," Venables added. Bury FC, where Neville Neville works as commercial manager and wife Jill as assistant secretary, will be bursting with pride. Alex Ferguson, their club manager, should be too.

If the long march has begun for the Nevilles, yesterday will be remembered as the long walk for many of the England party, who were guided the wrong way up the Great Wall and climbed more than 800 metres when they could have used the cable car. The views from the top were well worth the effort, but 45 minutes on the step machine was hardly ideal preparation for what Venables has described as a "hard test" for his team. The Nevilles and their central defensive partner, Tony Adams, recalled after four months out with a knee injury, did take the cable car. A few of the others might regret not staying at the hotel playing cards with Paul Gascoigne and Paul Ince come the latter stages tonight.

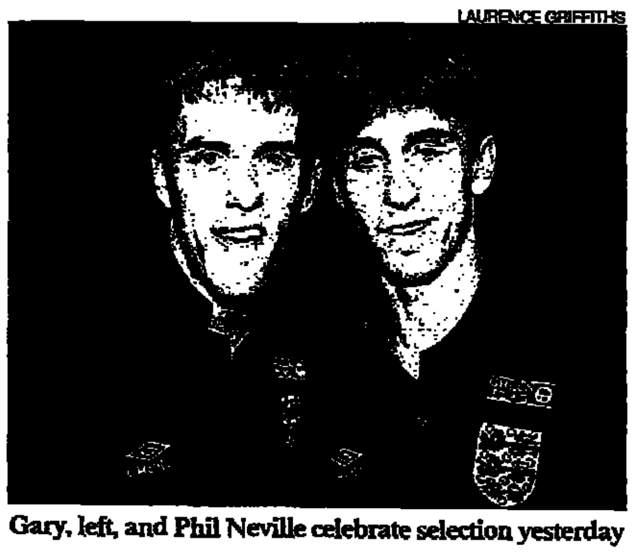
Venables has made nine changes to the side that began against Hungary last Saturday. Only Gary Neville and Darren Anderton retain their places. Alan Shearer replaces Les Ferdinand in attack, while Nick Barmby and Jamie Redknapp have their final chance to claim a place in the squad of 22 for the European championship.

On the bench, fingers will be firmly crossed that Adams, who takes over the captaincy from Platt, survives his first competitive test since January and that the disappointment of the FA Cup Final defeat has not drained the spark from McManaman. Southgate, clearly marked out to be the utility man in the squad, takes over the defensive role in front of the back four filled so effectively by Ince. His job will be to stop the quick breaks that, by reputation, are the hallmark of a China side lifted by the frenzied support of a 65,000 capacity crowd.

When all this is over, the Nevilles will wonder at the enormity of their achievements over the past two weeks. At Wembley, they emulated — if only for a minute or two, when Gary came on as a late substitute — the feat of the Heron brothers, Hubert and Frank, who won the Cup for Wanderers in 1876 and played for England in the same season. Tonight, in the country that, because of its strict policy on birthrate, averages the lowest number of brothers for size of population in the world, the blond Phil and the dark Gary will become only the sixth set of brothers to line up together for England. One can safely assume they are the first pair to pocket a championship medal, an FA Cup-winners medal and an international cap within a month. Most individuals would be happy with any one of those three.

The Charltons played the first of their 28 games together 31 years ago, Bobby scoring in a 2-2 draw with Scotland at Wembley. I wonder if brotherly advice was as absent then as it was yesterday. "He's got to learn for himself," Gary said. "It's the only way."

LAURENCE GRIFFITHS

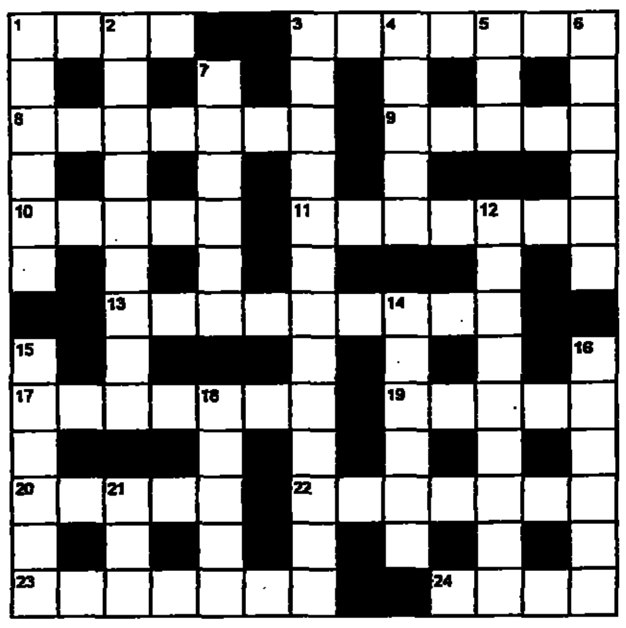


Gary, left, and Phil Neville celebrate selection yesterday

Leading article, page 21
United seeded, page 44

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 789 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS
1 Pay attention (to) (4)
3 Live together (7)
8 Hedge-shaping (7)
9 Corporation head (5)
10 Collector's item (5)
11 Collected edition: transport (7)
13 Office lunch-room (9)
17 Become worse (after improving) (7)
19 A nice drink of tea (5)
20 Parish priest (5)
22 Fabled Greek singer, lyrist (7)
23 Med. country, has cedars (7)
24 Try; listen to (4)

DOWN
1 Using advanced electronics (2-4)
2 Based on practice not theory (9)
3 Strongly desire the unobtainable (3,3,3,4)
4 Tarzan type (2-3)
5 Tree; coastal feature (3)
6 Push forcefully (6)
7 Bribe; investment return (3-3)
12 Insult religion (9)
14 Cooking instructions (6)
15 Fawn apologetically (6)
16 Mooring cable (6)
18 *Surname of Evita* (5)
21 A nut; a horse; a loaf (3)

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Name/Address ....

SOLUTION TO NO 788
ACROSS: 2 In the red 6 Prison 8 At last 9 Bulldog 10 Astir 12 Holman Hunt 16 Draw a blank 18 Korea 20 Scratch 21 Malice 22 Option 23 Yodeller
DOWN: 1 Crouton 2 Insomnia 3 Hit man 4 React 5 Dotard 7 Self-made 11 Stalwart 13 Up-anchor 14 Knock-on 15 Skimpy 17 Rascal 19 Riled

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